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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Formal Ballot for Senator in Joint Convention.

Wallace 125 Votes---Allison 116.

Election of Officers by the State Agricultural Society.

SENATE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, Pa., January 20, 1875.

Mr. Strang offered a resolution to adjourn finally on March 25. Referred.

Mr. Yerkes reported a bill to amend the game laws.

The vote rejecting the bill to permit defendants to testify in criminal cases was reconsidered, and the bill was postponed.

The following bills were presented in place:

By Mr. Jones—To repeal the law allowing a bill of exceptions in criminal cases.

Mr. Payne—To punish the unlawful taking of personal property where the same does not amount to larceny.

Mr. Newmyer—Regulating the taking of bail in criminal cases by magistrates.

Mr. Wood—Fixing the first Monday of March as the beginning of the terms of municipal officers.

Mr. Rutan—To extend the time for the completion of railroads.

Mr. Payne—To secure to children the benefit of an elementary education.

On the third reading, the bill relating to the Supplementary Partnership Associations act, and the bill relating to the return of writs in abolished courts, passed finally, and were sent to the House.

The following bills passed on the second reading: Repealing the act of April 9, 1872, regulating the election of school directors of Pittsburgh; and authorizing the trustees of Erie academy to sell real estate.

First reading: The bill authorizing the entry of compulsory non-suits, and the bill to repeal so much of the Pennsylvania Township Road law as applies to Indiana township.

The bill authorizing the County Commissioners to purchase toll bridges was recommitted.

HOUSE.

Mr. Wise presented a bill preventing the unjust seizures of property by United States officers.

Mr. Hofter—Providing for the assessment and collection of taxes. A session was ordered at three o'clock to give the Speaker an opportunity to announce the standing committees. On reassembling, the Speaker stated that he was not yet ready, but would be to-morrow.

Mr. Newmyer's bill relating to the return of writs in courts abolished by the new Constitution, passed the first reading.

THE JOINT CONVENTION.

The joint convention balloted at noon for Senator. Wallace received 125 votes, and Allison 116. Knight, Republican, was absent. Miner paired with Gorman, and Wallace with Alexander.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The State Agricultural Society met today for the election of officers. George Scott, of Williamsport, was elected President, and the Western Vice Presidents are George Rhey, John Murdoch, Jr., Alexander Speer, Joshua Wright, J. B. Lawson, J. D. Kirkpatrick, John W. Hammond. The old officers were elected. A Centennial Committee was appointed, consisting of George Scott, George Rhey, Alexander Speer, and five Eastern men.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 19, 1875.

The day was characterized by the complete failure of Buckalew's attempt to get up a bolt. He worked vigorously, held a constant levee at his room, and gave out authoritatively that he had five men who would never vote for Wallace. Many of our people believed him, but the old stagers could not get up much faith in it. Some of the Democrats were alarmed about it, and there were some very uncertain elements at work; but when it came down to the actual test, there were but three willing to bolt, and as three were not enough, Mr. B. threw up the sponge, and when the vote was taken in the two Houses to-day, every Democrat who had been regarded as doubtful marched up and voted for Wallace. So ends this celebrated attempt at revolt, and with it ends the influence of Mr. Buckalew in the politics of the State.

For it must be understood that this election does not signify the mere triumph of Wallace. It means, beside that, that the Wallace men come to the front and will lead, in future. It means that Buckalew will be thrust aside as a candidate for Governor, and a Wallace man nominated in his place (rumor says it will be A. H. Dill, of Union county); and that none but Wallace men will be allowed the honors of the party. Every friend of Buckalew will have to take a back seat, and from henceforth the "Wallace ring" will be omnipotent in all that pertains to the organization.

The vote on Senator, in the House, declined nearly two-thirds of the doubtful men in both parties. Mr. Sturtevant, of Crawford, a Liberal Republican, but elected as a Democrat, voted for Wallace; Mr. Mateer, of Huntingdon, elected on a mixed ticket, and Mr. Shonk, of Luzerne, elected as a Prohibitionist, both voted for Allison. Mr. Knight, of Bucks, was absent.

The Lieutenant Governor, Latta, was sworn in to-day. He made a short speech, the first part glorifying the Centennial, against which he voted in the House last winter, and the second part denouncing the National Administration for its course in Louisiana. This part of his speech was but a rehash of the editorials in the *Post* on that question, and, as being addressed to a Republican Senate, was in exceedingly bad taste. Considering that his position in the Senate is a merely ornamental one, devoid of power and imposing merely ministerial duties upon him, a political speech of any kind from him was altogether out of place. The Republican Senators submitted to it with ill-concealed reluctance, and many of them felt an almost irrepressible inclination to resent it; but their better judgment prevailed, and they let it go by unnoticed.

The bill to permit defendants to testify in criminal cases, which came up in the Senate this morning on second reading, met with its quietus very promptly. There was no debate upon it; but a vote by yeas and nays showed but 20 in its favor, to 25 against. The legal profession in the State is by no means satisfied with the law permitting defendants to testify in civil cases, as was evidenced by the introduction today, by Mr. Strang, of a bill to repeal it; and the prevalent feeling among lawyers is plainly against an extension of the principle to criminal cases. The vote on the bill to-day was as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Albright, Anderson (Allegheny), Anderson (Crawford), Bechtel, Chestnut, Cooper, Crouse, Ermentrout, Herr, Lemon (Blair), McKibben, Newmyer, Shimer, Skinner, Strang, Watson, Wood, Yeakle, Yerkes, and Cutler, Speaker —20.

Nays—Messrs. Alexander, Bussey, Chalfant, Clark, Collihan, Dill, Dunkel, Heilman, Jackson, Jones, Lamon (Philadelphia), Maclay, McClellan, McKinley, McMullen, McNeil, Nagle, Payne, Playford, Rockwell, Wallace, Wareham, Warfel, Winslow, Yutzy—25.

Mr. Anderson, of Allegheny, tried hard to pass a bill to permit married women to transfer securities, stocks, &c., the same as if unmarried, which came up on second reading. The first section slipped through safely, but when the second section was read, Mr. Strang called attention to it as of questionable propriety. Mr. Jones defended it, and Mr. Wallace opposed it. Mr. Albright thought it all right, and Mr. Herr thought it all wrong. On the vote being taken, notwithstanding the pressing arguments in favor of the bill of Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Jones, the second section was defeated, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Albright, Anderson (Allegheny), Cooper, Crouse, Dunkel, Heilman, Jackson, Jones, Lemon (Blair), Maclay, McClellan, McKibben, McKinley, McMullen, Newmyer, Payne, Stanton, Warfel, Yutzy—19.

Nays—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson (Crawford), Bechtel, Bussey, Chestnut, Clark, Collihan, Dill, Ermentrout, Herr, Horter, Lamon (Philadelphia), McNeil, Nagle, Rockwell, Roebuck, Rutan, Shimer, Strang, Wallace, Wareham, Watson, Wood, Yeakle, Yerkes, and Cutler, Speaker—26.

The third section was also voted down, and the remainder of the bill was then postponed indefinitely.

The House Special Committee to-day reported favorably on Mr. Graham's (of Allegheny) bill, to change the commencement of terms of office of municipal officers from the February election. This is a bill fixing a uniform day throughout the State (first Monday in April), when the official terms of those elected after its passage shall begin, or from which they shall be computed. If I understand it aright, the terms of municipal officers elected, say, in February, 1875, (supposing the bill to become a law before that election takes place,) will commence when the terms of the present incumbents expire, (January 1, 1876, for instance,) and will continue, not simply one, two or three years, as the case may be, but until the last Monday in April following the period fixed under present laws for the expiration of their terms, the election for their successors to take place in the February immediately preceding the expiration of the term thus extended.

For instance, the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny will, in February, 1875, elect Common Councilmen for one year. Their terms will commence on the first Monday in January, 1876, and would expire, under present laws, on the first Monday in January, 1877. If Graham's bill passes in session, their terms will be extended until the first Monday in April, 1877, and the election for their successors will take place in February, 1877, instead of February, 1876, as would be the case under the law as it now stands, the terms of those elected in 1877 and thereafter to be one year, as now. This would cut off an election for one-year officers in 1876, for two-year officers in 1877, and for three-year officers in 1878, and lengthen the terms of those elected in 1875 some three months each.

This does not lengthen or extend the term of any officer now in office. The Constitution says that no law shall be passed to extend the term of any officer *during* the term for which he shall be elected or appointed. It must be done, if at all, *before his* election, and I see no constitutional objection to this temporary extension of a term of office commencing after the passage of the bill. It is the only practicable way of breaking up the vicious system of electing officers ten or twelve months in advance.

One of the first evidences of Democratic rule is furnished by the discharge of all the colored women heretofore employed to sweep and keep clean the chamber of the House. The pittance paid for this labor is contemptibly small, but it is a welcome help to many a poor, struggling woman, and the Clerk of the House, for several years, has employed a number of poor colored women, among the others. The Clerk of the present House has turned them all off. No "nigger" must be allowed to sweep or scrub when Democrats have the rule. This is a white man's (and a white woman's) government. You know. One of the discharged negro women, a poor, old grey-haired creature, was passing out of the hall or entry between the committee rooms, after being turned off, and when opposite the door of the room assigned to the Speaker of the Senate, on the Senate side of the hall, she happened to look in and see the portrait of Abraham Lincoln hanging on the wall. Pausing to gaze on it a moment she exclaimed, "Well, you has Abraham on *dis* side still." There is no trace of him to be found on the *other* side.

SPECIAL.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1875.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the memorial of the Conservative members of the Louisiana Legislature, giving their view of the disturbances attending the organization of the Legislature of that State. Ordered printed and referred.

Mr. CLAYTON introduced a bill to protect each State against invasion and for other purposes. Referred.

Mr. THURMAN presented the joint resolution of the Ohio Legislature, condemning the expulsion of the officers and members of the Louisiana Legislature by military power. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Mr. SHERMAN said he had also received a copy of the resolutions, together with a copy of a protest signed by the Republican members of the House and entered upon the journal of that body. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

The Vice President then proceeded with the call of the calendar. The consideration of the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation bill was resumed.

After some amendments, unimportant in character had been agreed to, the bill was reported to the Senate, and all the amendments made in Committee of the Whole were agreed to, except one. The bill was then read the third time and passed.

Mr. DAVIS, of West Virginia, moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defense for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1876. Agreed to.

Mr. Davis said that the present bill appropriated $850,000, a less amount than for any year since the beginning. The bill was read the third time and passed as it came from the House of Representatives.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, moved to take up the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill. Agreed to.

The only amendment of importance reported by the Committee was the one appropriating $28,500 for the salaries and expenses of the United States and Mexican Claims Commission. Agreed to. The bill was then read the third time and passed.

Mr. MORTON moved to take up the proposed amendment to the Constitution, submitted by the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Agreed to.

Mr. SHERMAN said he had yielded to the Senator from Indiana (Morton) to have the proposed amendment acted on, and gave notice that after it should be disposed of, he would claim the floor to finish his remarks in regard to the Louisiana troubles.

Mr. MORTON then had the proposed amendment read, as follows:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, two-thirds of each House concurring therein, that the following article is hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution, to wit:

Article I. The President and Vice President shall be elected by the direct vote of the people in manner following: Each State shall be divided into districts, equal in number to the number of representatives to which the State may be entitled in Congress, to be composed of contiguous territory, and to be as nearly equal in population as may be, and the person having the highest number of votes in each district for President shall receive the vote of that district which shall be counted as one Presidential vote.

Article II. The person having the highest number of votes for President in each State, shall receive two Presidential votes from the State at large.

Article III. The person having the highest number of Presidential votes in the United States shall be declared President.

Article IV. If two persons have the same number of votes in any State, it being the highest number, they shall receive each one Presidential vote from the State at large; and if more than two persons shall have each the same number of votes in any State, it being the highest number, no Presidential vote shall be counted from the State at large. If more persons than one shall have the same number of votes, it being the highest number in any district, no Presidential vote shall be counted from that district.

Article V. The foregoing provisions shall apply to the election of Vice President.

Article VI. The Congress shall have power to provide for the holding and conducting of elections for President and Vice President, and to establish tribunals for the decision of such elections as may be contested.

Article VII. The States shall be divided into districts by the Legislatures thereof, but Congress may at any time by law make or alter the same.

After the resolution was read, Mr. MORTON yielded to Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, for a motion for executive session.

Mr. WEST presented the memorial of the General Assembly of Louisiana in regard to the recent disturbances in that State. Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

After executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The SPEAKER presented a letter from Richard B. Irwin, a recusant witness in the Pacific Mail investigation, stating that he was now ready to answer the questions asked, and to purge himself of his alleged contempt; and also stating that he has been suffering from malarial fever, and that unless he is soon released, his testimony would be lost forever. A resolution was adopted rescinding so much of the resolution of January 16 as required the Sergeant-at-Arms to keep Irwin in the district jail.

Mr. O'BRIEN asked leave to offer a resolution calling on the President to state by what authority the courts and officers of Mississippi, at Vicksburg, have been interfered with by the military.

Mr. LYNCH objected to the resolution in that shape.

Mr. SHELDON presented a memorial of the Conservative members of the Louisiana Legislature, relating to the difficulties concerning the organization of that Legislature. Referred.

The bill having been completed in committee was reported to the House. The bill was then rejected—yeas 111, nays 129.

Mr. LOUGHRIDGE, who had charge of the bill, moved to reconsider the vote rejecting it.

Mr. HALE, of Maine, suggested the committal of the bill to the Committee of Appropriations with instructions to report it back without the Choctaw claim, which he said was the point on which the fight had been made.

The SPEAKER presented a message from the President, calling special attention to the absolute necessity of providing a proper armament for sea-coast defenses. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The recusant witness in the Pacific Mail investigation, Charles A. Wetmore, was again brought before the House, and asked by the Speaker wh ther he was now prepared to answer the questions propounded to him. He replied that he could not answer the question unless it was modified, and he proceeded to read a statement to show why he could not answer it. He complained of the manner of his examination yesterday, which, he said, must have been originally adopted by the same person desirous of having the examination conducted so that the evidence should be made to confirm the pre-ordained judgment of the examining body. The cross-examination by Dawes had confused him, as it was calculated to extinguish any light on the subject, which might probably have been extracted from him, if he had been permitted to marshal his own recollections, and been cross-examined afterwards. The witness having detected some indications of contemptuous laughter from a few members, asked the Speaker that he be treated with respect, but was informed that the Speaker had not noticed any evidence of disrespect. Coming to the question as to who had mentioned the rumor of Beck's connection with a check, he said that his idea to-day was, that the person was a friend whose confidence he ought not to violate, without further consideration of the subject. He had therefore asked for time, which request was not granted, but he was absolutely rushed before the bar of the House. He protested in the name of every American citizen who is in sympathy with the spirit of justice and whose supreme power is greater than that of the House, against such examinations in the dark. He had been considering the matter since he was before the committee, and had been surprised to find that he had not fixed the right tumor on the right man. He could not now give the name of any party to whom he could trace the rumor, but he thought that Mr. Beck would assist him in finding out who the guilty parties were. He hoped that Mr. Beck and all the honest men might be found innocent in the malestrom of overwhelming charges, so that the goats might be selected from the sheep; and also that the sheep might be selected from among themselves by the Darwinian process of investigation. Then they would all grow numerously purer until they became angels of virtue. He declared he was ready, though not willing, to go to jail, but he hoped and expected that the House would be satisfied with his statement.

Mr. DAWES thought that the statement last read by the witness was such an arraignment of the committee as was not proper for the House, and not for the committee to take notice of it. He moved the ordinary resolution, that Charles A. Wetmore be considered in contempt of this House.

Mr. LAMAR thought that witness had purged himself of contempt in having answered explicitly and positively that it is beyond his power to give the name of his informant, and in having intimated his doubts as to the accuracy of his telegram, or whether there was any such informant in existence.

Mr. HALE, of New York, moved, as a substitute for Mr. Dawes' resolution, that Charles A. Wetmore having, under guise and pretense of answering the charge of contempt, been guilty of a series of gross and wanton insults to the House, in the presence of the House, be adjudged in contempt therefor, and committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, to be detained in the common jail of the District, until further order of the House.

Mr. GARFIELD intimated that the witness' answer in the presence of the House, had satisfied his mind, fully on the point whether he was of sound mind. [Laughter.] If the House thought he was, the resolution ought to pass, but otherwise a milder form of punishment ought to be adopted.

Mr. PAGE asked Mr. Hale whether the witness was to be sent to jail because his answer was unwilling to the House, because of his refusal to answer the questions of the committee.

Mr. HALE replied that the resolution spoke for itself.

Mr. HALE'S substitute was adopted and the witness was removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms and subsequently conducted to jail.

Adjourned.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

The Letter of the Vice President.

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1875.

To the Editor of the Springfield Republican:

I find in your journal a statement that I agree with you that the Republican party is dead. I beg leave to say I do not agree with the *Republican*, or with any man or set of men, in the opinion that it is dead or hopelessly defeated. On the contrary, I believe that the Republican party, both in and out of power, is destined to live, and by its power to recover what it has lost and to elect the next President. In saying this I am not unmindful of the grave questions at issue and which are pressing for solution, of the disasters that have fallen upon it, nor of the hopes, expectations and strength of the Democratic party—a party whose strength and power I have never underrated. I believe it can recover all it has lost, win back its former prestige, and still retain its power in the Government; and I believe this because I believe it to be a necessity of the country. The grand work of liberty and patriotism it has performed imperatively demands that it should continue to guide the policy of the nation. Liberty, law, order, protection and civilization cannot afford to have it permanently defeated. I saw quite as early as any one the perils of the Republican party, and more than thirteen months since I warned my political friends of the danger of losing the next House of Representatives. The party has made mistakes, and is now paying the penalty of those mistakes: but its ideas, principles, and general policies have not been condemned. It has been taught by recent disasters that it is mortal, and if it is wise it will heed those lessons. It would seem that neither selfishness nor stupidity could fail to understand them, or could misinterpret the report. If the Republican party now dies, it will die by the hand of the suicide, for there is no arm other than its own potent enough to strike it down. I do not think, hope to recover its lost prestige and and power by a policy of rewards and punishments, or by party discipline. There are hundreds of thousands in the Republican party to-day who spurned the bribes and frowns of power, and left the Whig and Democratic parties for the sake of principles decayed by them and consecrated by sacred. These men cannot be seduced by the blandishments of power, nor greatly moved by threats of discipline. Mere politicians, who think they can govern by the whip of party discipline, will find that they cannot thus reach or control the thoughtful and independent men who shrink the lash from the hands of slave-masters. Nor can we recover what is lost in Massachusetts or in the country by the impertinent intermeddling of office-holders in nominations and elections. Office-holders should learn from the recent elections that they can serve the Republican party best by performing their official duties with scrupulous fidelity. The people must be left free to manage in their own way, and without official interference, their primary meetings and elections, for, rightfully or wrongfully, they have been compelled to believe that there are those holding office in Massachusetts, in the country, and especially at the South, some of them in important positions, who do not fully represent the desires and wishes of their localities, and who have lost the public confidence. The party burdened by such is not likely to be led to victory by their obtrusive interference, either in Massachusetts or in the country, South or North. The disastrous division of the Republican party in 1872 was to me a distressing event. It seemed to me to be the unnecessary separation of comrades who had toiled together for so many years for noble purposes and a glorious cause. I did all I could by remonstrance and appeal to prevent it, and have since sought to heal what was then so disastrously and unnecessarily broken. And I would now throw the doors wide open for the return of those who voted for Mr. Greeley in 1872, and earnestly invite them to unite with me and with their old associates. Indeed, at any moment since that election, I would have pursued a generous and magnanimous policy toward the men who then left us, and now, without the loss of a single hour, I would, in all sincerity, extend the hand of reconciliation. I would appeal to you, Sir, and to your associates of the Republican party, to unite with me in that unfortunate division, to unite with the great party which, with all its errors, faults and mistakes, has made a glorious record for the maintenance and progress of freedom and progress. I do not ask you to refrain from criticism, nor to leave unnoticed its mistakes; for a party that cannot tolerate that is unworthy to live. Its decadence has already been, and now is, a class of men in the South, Douglas Democrats, and old-line National Whigs, who were dragged into the coalition, and who have very little sympathy with the Democratic party. I have believed, and now believe that these men should be invited to co-operate with the Republican party and share in its responsibilities and honors. I believe that peace in the South, the blotting out of divisions on the line of race, the advancement of real reconstruction, permanent Southern prosperity, and the success of the Republican party demand that all honorable efforts should be made to withdraw such men from association with those who led them into rebellion, brought such fearful and indescribable ruin upon them, and who still adhere to the "lost cause." It seems to me that Republicans everywhere, in the interests not of office, should subordinate all personal desires, aspirations, and ambitions; sacrifice their interests if need be, rally again for the party, invite everybody to crowd its ranks, and bring to the front, to the important positions of the Government, all the experience, ability, and character they can command. A broad, wise, and magnanimous policy should be promptly inaugurated, and steadily and honestly pursued. When the country clearly sees, as it will see, the only alternative presented, the real issues involved, the policies and men to be supported, their record in the past and their present affiliations, who and what shall prevail if the Republican party be set aside? When the country sees where the loyal men of the land are found and where they stand, who believe in the perfect equality of the races, and who, come victory or defeat, life or death, mean to maintain in its completeness the equal rights of American citizens of every race, nationality, and faith, then will the Republican masses rally again, achieve new victories, and give the party a new lease of power. Truly yours,

(Signed) HENRY WILSON.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Presidential Policy on the Louisiana Question.

HIS FUTURE COURSE STATED.

Message on the Armament of the Coast Defenses.

FUNDS WANTED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

The Improvement of the Ohio River Urged Upon Congress.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1875.

Presidential Policy on the Southern Question—Course Decided Upon.

The President, during the past few days, has had under consideration the various aspects which may be assumed by the Louisiana question under certain circumstances. He has so far reached a conclusion that it can be stated that a final disposition of this unfortunate contest will be reached before the adjournment of Congress or immediately after. This will be most emphatically the case should Congress take no action in the premises. The President feels satisfied that during the entire two years he has had the sole management of the course of the Government undirected by Congress with respect to the preservation of order in the Southern States, and the protection of the rights of all classes of their inhabitants, he has been governed by but one impulse—the performance of his share of duty, under the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States, which declares that the law calls upon Congress for legislation to define his action, he has now determined upon a course of his own. To accomplish this he will wait for Congress for specific legislation. He has decided that in the event of the seating of Pinchback, elected by the Kellogg Legislature to the Senate of the United States, he will consider such action as equivalent to a recognition of the legality of the Kellogg government. Should Pinchback not be admitted to a seat, the President will look upon this as an indication that the Senate is not willing to recognize the legality of the Kellogg government, and therefore he will not consider himself as being charged to the support of that government. If Congress should adjourn without some positive action, the President will withdraw the United States troops from Louisiana, retaining only a sufficient number to garrison the forts on the Mississippi below New Orleans, but for no purpose of interfering with the Kellogg State power. This will leave Mr. Kellogg to take care of himself. The President states that the use of the troops in ejecting the acting Sheriff from his office in Vicksburgh was not directed from Washington. General Sheridan has orders which give him the privilege of exercising his own discretion in the use of the troops for the preservation of order and the protection of all the people, and can act without special instructions. Of course, if the commanding force there exceeds what the President considers a proper use of the military forces, he will be checked.

Diplomatic Determinations.

The President has decided to fill the Turkish mission recently vacated by the promotion of Mr. Boker to Russia, by the appointment of a gentleman from Iowa. The mission to Ecuador will be filled from Tennessee. The President is influenced in his selection by the fact that neither of the States named have any representation in the diplomatic service of the United States.

Irwin Will Tell All He Knows.

Mr. Irwin has at last weakened, and the long looked-for developments are promised to-morrow morning. It was expected that he would testify this afternoon, and consequently there was quite a crowd about the doors of the Committee on Ways and Means, who remained there until it was announced that the examination would not take place. Mr. Irwin informed a friend to-day that after all he did not think the great expectations of *rich* developments would be fully realized, after all he knew was told. It is believed he will now account for every cent expended, as he will not relish the idea of going back to prison.

The Message on the Coast Defenses.

The special message sent in by the President this afternoon, setting forth the urgency of strengthening our coast defenses, is much commented on to-night. It is accepted by many as a corroboration of the rumors which have been circulated of late of impending hostilities with Spain. Whatever may be in store for the future, it can be positively stated that no such event is now any anticipation of difficulty with that power, although he doubtless considers, as a matter of precaution, now that all the ports are open to arrange, that our fortifications should be put in proper condition. In conversation to-day, the President said that he could not accept for a moment the proposition recently made as to our relations with Spain. As heretofore stated in these dispatches, it has not been deemed necessary to send any additional instructions to Mr. Cushing since the re-establishment of the monarchy.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1875.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE OHIO RIVER.

George H. Thurston, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Commissioners for the Improvement of the Ohio river, made an argument before the House Committee on Commerce to-day, urging the appropriation of six hundred thousand dollars for the construction of the new system of adjustable dams or chutes between Pittsburgh and Wheeling to secure sufficient depth of water in the channel at all seasons. The Committee took no action.

POLITICAL.

Connecticut.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

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Michigan.

THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS—THE ANTI-CHANDLER MEN.

LANSING, January 21.—The result of the Democratic caucus last night, and the subsequent conference with theanti-Chandler men, is kept entirely secret. It is thought the Democrats, after uniting on some candidate of their own, if unable to elect, have very little sympathy with the Democratic party. I have believed, and now believe that these men should be invited to co-operate with the Republican party and share in its responsibilities and honors. I believe that peace in the South, the blotting out of divisions on the line of race, the advancement of real reconstruction, permanent Southern prosperity, and the success of the Republican party demand that all honorable efforts should be made to withdraw such men from association with those who led them into rebellion, brought such fearful and indescribable ruin upon them, and who still adhere to the "lost cause." It seems to me that Republicans everywhere, in the interests not of office, should subordinate all personal desires, aspirations, and ambitions; sacrifice their interests if need be, rally again for the party, invite everybody to crowd its ranks, and bring to the front, to the important positions of the Government, all the experience, ability, and character they can command. A broad, wise, and magnanimous policy should be promptly inaugurated, and steadily and honestly pursued. When the country clearly sees, as it will see, the only alternative presented, the real issues involved, the policies and men to be supported, their record in the past and their present affiliations, who and what shall prevail if the Republican party be set aside? When the country sees where the loyal men of the land are found and where they stand, who believe in the perfect equality of the races, and who, come victory or defeat, life or death, mean to maintain in its completeness the equal rights of American citizens of every race, nationality, and faith, then will the Republican masses rally again, achieve new victories, and give the party a new lease of power. Truly yours,

(Signed) HENRY WILSON.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Presidential Policy on the Louisiana Question.

HIS FUTURE COURSE STATED.

Message on the Armament of the Coast Defenses.

FUNDS WANTED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

The Improvement of the Ohio River Urged Upon Congress.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1875.

Presidential Policy on the Southern Question—Course Decided Upon.

The President, during the past few days, has had under consideration the various aspects which may be assumed by the Louisiana question under certain circumstances. He has so far reached a conclusion that it can be stated that a final disposition of this unfortunate contest will be reached before the adjournment of Congress or immediately after. This will be most emphatically the case should Congress take no action in the premises. The President feels satisfied that during the entire two years he has had the sole management of the course of the Government undirected by Congress with respect to the preservation of order in the Southern States, and the protection of the rights of all classes of their inhabitants, he has been governed by but one impulse—the performance of his share of duty, under the fourth section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States, which declares that the law calls upon Congress for legislation to define his action, he has now determined upon a course of his own. To accomplish this he will wait for Congress for specific legislation. He has decided that in the event of the seating of Pinchback, elected by the Kellogg Legislature to the Senate of the United States, he will consider such action as equivalent to a recognition of the legality of the Kellogg government. Should Pinchback not be admitted to a seat, the President will look upon this as an indication that the Senate is not willing to recognize the legality of the Kellogg government, and therefore he will not consider himself as being charged to the support of that government. If Congress should adjourn without some positive action, the President will withdraw the United States troops from Louisiana, retaining only a sufficient number to garrison the forts on the Mississippi below New Orleans, but for no purpose of interfering with the Kellogg State power. This will leave Mr. Kellogg to take care of himself. The President states that the use of the troops in ejecting the acting Sheriff from his office in Vicksburgh was not directed from Washington. General Sheridan has orders which give him the privilege of exercising his own discretion in the use of the troops for the preservation of order and the protection of all the people, and can act without special instructions. Of course, if the commanding force there exceeds what the President considers a proper use of the military forces, he will be checked.

Diplomatic Determinations.

The President has decided to fill the Turkish mission recently vacated by the promotion of Mr. Boker to Russia, by the appointment of a gentleman from Iowa. The mission to Ecuador will be filled from Tennessee. The President is influenced in his selection by the fact that neither of the States named have any representation in the diplomatic service of the United States.

Irwin Will Tell All He Knows.

Mr. Irwin has at last weakened, and the long looked-for developments are promised to-morrow morning. It was expected that he would testify this afternoon, and consequently there was quite a crowd about the doors of the Committee on Ways and Means, who remained there until it was announced that the examination would not take place. Mr. Irwin informed a friend to-day that after all he did not think the great expectations of *rich* developments would be fully realized, after all he knew was told. It is believed he will now account for every cent expended, as he will not relish the idea of going back to prison.

The Message on the Coast Defenses.

The special message sent in by the President this afternoon, setting forth the urgency of strengthening our coast defenses, is much commented on to-night. It is accepted by many as a corroboration of the rumors which have been circulated of late of impending hostilities with Spain. Whatever may be in store for the future, it can be positively stated that no such event is now any anticipation of difficulty with that power, although he doubtless considers, as a matter of precaution, now that all the ports are open to arrange, that our fortifications should be put in proper condition. In conversation to-day, the President said that he could not accept for a moment the proposition recently made as to our relations with Spain. As heretofore stated in these dispatches, it has not been deemed necessary to send any additional instructions to Mr. Cushing since the re-establishment of the monarchy.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1875.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE OHIO RIVER.

George H. Thurston, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Commissioners for the Improvement of the Ohio river, made an argument before the House Committee on Commerce to-day, urging the appropriation of six hundred thousand dollars for the construction of the new system of adjustable dams or chutes between Pittsburgh and Wheeling to secure sufficient depth of water in the channel at all seasons. The Committee took no action.

POLITICAL.

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THE TILTON-BEECHER TRIAL.

Cross-Examination of Moulton Continued—Further Details About the Scandal.

NEW YORK, January 20.—Judge Neilson was on the bench of the Brooklyn City Court early this morning, and the body of the hall and gallery were comfortably filled and soon afterward crowded.

The Commercial.

THURSDAY JANUARY 21, 1875.

IMMIGRATION to Philadelphia is steadily and largely increasing. Last year 8,869 immigrants arrived at that port, against 3,081 for the year before.

THE restoration of ten per cent. on all duties, which was stricken off in 1872, as well as of the tax on tea and coffee, seems to have been definitely decided upon.

CONGRESSMAN POTTER, who wrote the report of the New Orleans investigating Committee, is a firm believer in the right of secession. This is merely explanatory.

A GREAT deal is just now being spoken and written, in some quarters, concerning the needs of the Republican party. They may be summed up in a single word—backbone.

IT LOOKS as though the peoples of Europe would presently sit down to a very sorry feast. War is brewing, and the whole continent will probably be embroiled.

IT IS probable that Senator SCHURZ now bitterly rues his ambitious folly in consenting to make a bid to the bushwhackers of Missouri for the United States Senatorship—as he did in his late speech on Louisiana concerns. Their treatment of him, since, has simply been contemptuous.

OVER in Schuylkill county, where affairs are managed by the Democracy, a barn was built recently on the Almshouse property, in which 1,500 feet of lumber was used; and the warrants drawn on the Treasury therefor amount to only $29,000. Economy is the "best holt" of the Democrats, you know.

WHILE the increase in the total exports of the United States last year over 1873 amounted to 5.85 per cent., the exports of Philadelphia during the same period increased 30.6 per cent. Those of New York increased only 6.89 per cent., and Boston's decrease was ten per cent. These comparisons speak for themselves.

AN IMPORTANT decision has just been rendered by the United States Supreme Court against the Union Pacific Railroad, in a case where the Treasurer of Omaha county, Nebraska, sued for taxes. The decision settles numerous cases of similar import throughout that State, and will increase its treasury by several hundred thousand dollars.

IT IS understood that the Republican leaders of both branches of Congress have prepared a joint resolution indorsing President GRANT and General SHERIDAN for their course in the Lousiana affair. The resolution is to be introduced next Monday. It should be passed with the full strength of the party, for the great heart of the loyal masses of the country throbs behind it.

THE New York Association of School Commissioners and Superintendents want the Government to "consecrate a portion of the proceeds of the sale of public lands to the purposes of education"—the distribution to be determined on the basis of illiteracy—the greater need, the greater allotment. The plan, however, is not equitable. Under its operation the Democratic States would absorb nearly the entire area so set apart.

TWEED is not unlikely to cheat justice of its dues, after all. It appears that Judge RAPALLO, of the New York Court of Appeals, has granted, or is about to grant, a writ of error in his case, with *a supersedeas* clause, or, in other words, with a clause granting a stay of the execution of the judgment of the court below, under which the prisoner is now in confinement on Blackwell's Island. This will cause an intermission in his imprisonment, if nothing more.

ONE of the earlier English Cavalier poets wrote:

> "Stone walls do not a prison make,
> Nor iron bars a cage;
> Minds innocent and quiet take
> Such for a heritage."

This, however, is not exactly the light in which the matter strikes IRWIN, the recusant Pacific Mail witness—most likely because the true point of vision is wanting. He is like STERNE's caged starling, and wants to get out—to which end he will make a clean breast of it before the Investigating Committee.

A NUMBER of Southern Congressmen are urging the abolition of the taxes on whisky and tobacco, on the ground, substantially, that the imposition of these dues is obnoxious to the people of that section. This is cool. Because United States Marshals and their deputies are resisted in many places in their attempts to collect the internal revenue, in those States, the Government is to relinquish its tolls, is it? On the contrary, these resistances should be punished with the utmost rigor of the law, since, if left to their legitimate sequence, the tariff would die presently by becoming practically nullified, and our extended Southern coast lines would swarm with successful smugglers.

THE compulsory education law in New York threatens to prove a failure. But three weeks have elapsed since the law went into effect, and already, it is said, the almost universal testimony is that it will be a dead letter upon the statute books until repealed. It not only contains many imperfections, but fails to make any provision has ever for raising money to enforce its regulations. In few places steps have been taken for putting the measure into effect; but as a general thing people pay no more heed to it than if it had not been enacted. The probabilities are that the bill will be repealed by this winter's Legislature. California, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Texas and Nevada have compulsory educational laws, but in none of them do they appear to work smoothly or satisfactorily. There seems to be an aversion in this Democratic country to compelling parents and guardians to send their children to school. Compulsory education bills have also just been introduced into the Illinois and Indiana Legislatures, but it is quite doubtful whether, if passed, they will work any particular wonders in the cause of progress.

THE New York *Tribune* has repeatedly, since the investigation into the Pacific Mail subsidy began, charged that *two* of the members of the Ways and Means Committee were open to the suspicion of having been bribed to support that subsidy, and demanded that the Committee should investigate the truth of the charges.

The Committee, as the first step in that investigation, sent for WHITELAW REID, editor of the *Tribune*, and asked him to submit the proof of his charges. They naturally concluded that the man who made such charges must be prepared to prove them, and they very properly invited Mr. REID to substantiate his allegations.

Did he do it? Not he. His business is to fabricate charges against public men, not to prove them. He had not a particle of proof to back up his demand for investigation. His city editor, a convenient tool named SHANKS, had told him that there were *rumors* on Wall street that Mr. WOOD and Mr. DAWES had got part of the Pacific Mail swag. He did not believe there was any truth in the rumors, and was kind enough to assure Mr. DAWES that he had no suspicion or reason to believe him guilty; but he thought, as the rumors were in circulation, privately, it would be best to make them public, so that the parties implicated might vindicate themselves! And that is all the excuse this wholesale libeler had to give for filling his columns daily with accusations which, he confesses, he did not himself believe!

This exhibition is a most disgraceful one for a paper which professes to be at the head of the American press. It betrays a love for slander solely for slander's sake. The chief editor of a paper claiming to be the chief paper of the country, confesses to a voluntary indulgence in scandal, and to rehashing street tittle-tattle from no other motive than to get somebody to contradict it. There could have been in it no desire to get at the truth, for he admits he believed the rumors to be false; and as he gave them currency without expressing a disbelief in them, he showed a predetermined inclination to induce the public to believe them.

This case is a pertinent illustration of the habitual unfairness toward public men evinced by a large portion of the American press. Instead of treating a man in a public station as one in whose good name and position every one has a deep interest, he is treated as an object of constant suspicion and distrust. If rumors assail him, instead of inquiring into their falsity and exposing them, they are caught at greedily, paraded flaringly and flung at him as if he were a criminal under the Mosaic law, condemned to be stoned to death. This is not only disreputable journalism, but it is death to everything like statesmanship, and must, if persisted in, drive every sensitive man out of politics. All except those whose hides are as impenetrable as that of the rhinoceros, must shrink from passing through such an ordeal.

It is not the part of a man in private life to repeat the petty slanders and rumors that come to his ears about those with whom he is constantly associating; still less is it the part of the press to catch them up, give them life and currency, and dignify what should be regarded as despicable. The tale-bearer and tattler has always been an object of reproach, and an editorial tattler is the most miserable of all his dirty tribe. It is the duty of the press to investigate into the truth of rumors *before* and not *after* publication. The advice of the Cincinnati *Commercial* to its Washington correspondent, to attack first and investigate afterward, was simply setting up an editorial code of lynch law, borrowed from the Mississippi practice of hanging a man first and trying him afterwards. The New York *Tribune*, in this DAWES and WOOD matter, has been practising upon this very low code, and the seal of public indignation cannot be put upon the practice a moment too soon. The old legal principle that every man is to be regarded as innocent until *proven* guilty, is the only safe one to follow. If public men are to have every lying rumor thrown at them as true, and they are to be held guilty until they can prove themselves innocent, then, truly, have the foundations of society been overturned; right has become wrong, and evil has become good. We do not believe that we have come to that pass yet; and we are confident that a sound public opinion will yet be potent enough to break up and destroy such manifestations of a slanderous spirit as WHITELAW REID stands convicted of by his own confession.

BISMARCK AS AN ORATOR.

Though Prince BISMARCK speaks much and often in Parliament, for some reason or other foreigners at least do not usually think of him as an orator. Of such statesmen as GLADSTONE, DISRAELI, THIERS, and even the Duc de BROGLIE, people are wont to think as men who sustain their policy by speech, and who owe their reputation and positions in considerable degree to the superiority of their oratorical powers. Of BISMARCK the popular conception is different. He is conceived of as a statesman preeminently practical, as a man of deeds, or as a man whose mere force of will and character has enabled him to achieve the prodigious results associated with his name. Though newspapers tell of his making speeches and that he produces a deep impression upon his hearers, readers, unless we mistake, do not, as a rule, connect his speeches with the prevalence of his policy, but regard them as things apart, as a sort of by-play which may have served some incidental purpose, but which might have been omitted without detriment to the great man's influence or position.

No impression, however, could be more mistaken. In fact, BISMARCK seems to owe as much as any other living statesman to his speaking powers. His style, however, is very peculiar, concerning which a French visitor in Berlin has lately given some interesting details. The first time one hears him speak, says the Frenchman, one is struck by the contrast between his physical appearance and his organ. The body is that of a giant, of proportions herculean, and from the immense chest comes forth an exceedingly fine thread or hoarse voice hardly perceptible. To be heard at all the chamber must be perfectly silent, a condition which never fails to ensue when he rises to speak.

No orator ever presented a more curious spectacle. With his right hand he snatches up the first object within his reach; he transfers it to his left hand; he twirls a pencil of enormous dimensions or he arms himself with a great swan feather pen. Formerly a fresh pen was put in his place every day, but finding that those pens, after being used by him, were sold by the porters to English relic-hunters, BISMARCK prohibited the profitable traffic. If he finds no pen conveniently at hand, he seizes a gigantic pair of scissors, or finding no scissors, he lays hold of a Parliamentary report or an amendment, and forming it into a roll wields it as a baton. Without this strange apparatus, says the reporter, he finds it impossible to speak—a statement which reminds us that Madame DE STAEL never could talk her best unless she had a little slip of paper to brandish in her right hand.

While speaking, the rest of the Chancellor's body is as much agitated as his hands. The Frenchman is reminded of a steam engine at work. One almost fancies one *sees* the brain laboriously perform its functions; all the nerves are in action, the eyes sparkle with a fevrous lustre. It is all the time evident also that the speaker is weighing every word, knowing that his words will be in a few minutes transmitted across the world, and may carry thither peace or war. Hence his language is markedly deficient in facility. In trying to express himself he often searches long before finding the exact term he wants to represent his meaning. At last he never conveys any other than the precise thought he intends to convey, saying accurately what he wished to say.

Sometimes he interrupts his phrases and even his words by a kind of hiccough, the effect of which is very disagreeable. And yet, notwithstanding all defects and eccentricities of manner, "no orator in the world," says the Frenchman, "produces so much effect as BISMARCK. One quickly forgets unattractive externals in close attention to what the orator says. In the thought and in the form this is always admirable. I do not believe that the German Parliament has ever heard anything superior to it." Moreover, BISMARCK has no superior in power of sarcasm, and possesses in supreme degree the accent of disdain, which is indeed his specialty. He is rich in *bons mots*, and does not disdain to fling out a pun. Occasionally he calls forth such roars of laughter as are heard in the Wallner Theater on the evenings when HELMERDING plays. In general BISMARCK utters his witty remarks with the most careless air in the world, as if not himself understanding what he is saying. Instead of hurling the mot, he throws it on the ground for his hearers to pick up if they please.

Another peculiarity of the Chancellor's oratory is his fondness for quotations. His discourses are often enamelled with citations in Latin, French, and even Greek. These quotations are, however, always short, pithy and to the point, having the merit of really illustrating or giving pregnancy to the subject in hand. If the old rule still prevailed that "a happy quotation happily applied was worth a hundred golden pieces," BISMARCK would have well deserved the reward by his recent use of a line of VIRGIL.

The Frenchman's last critical remark is that BISMARCK is the orator who consumes most sugared water (*eau sucree*). His average is a dozen glasses per hour, but when speaking in great wrath he drinks a double quantity.

THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL QUESTION.

The efforts now being made in behalf of the establishment and maintenance of technical education, in connection with the common school system of the State, deserve to be heartily seconded by everybody who is at all interested in the progress of our noble Commonwealth. But in nearly all innovations, whether in law, philosophy, sciences, politics, or education, the chief difficulty is to secure a union of minds as respects methods of commencement, and this, probably, will be one of the greatest obstacles in the establishment of these schools. It would plainly be impossible to impart more than mere theoretical technology—the principles of physics, chemistry etc., without the benefit of applied practice so as to embrace the leading industries of the State, in one mechanical school for the whole State. Nor perhaps, would it be desirable, even if this could be done, unless the great industries of the Commonwealth were common to all parts of the State, which is far from being the case. These industrial schools, while they are creatures of the Legislature, and hence cannot be local, still, to be successful, they must have a direct bearing upon the special industries of the community or city in which they are established. There is no State in the Union of more varied resources or richer mineral wealth than Pennsylvania. Her manufactories, arts, etc., embrace almost every branch in the country, but these are not uniformly distributed throughout the State; indeed, so different are those West of the mountains from those in the Eastern part of the State, that, so far as the manufacturing industries are concerned, it would be almost impossible to make one school answer for the two sections. Since, then, if these schools are to consist of separate buildings, properly equipped, with apparatus, machinery, and so forth, it would be necessary to have an Eastern and Western school, and as this would require a much larger amount than would be appropriated by the State, the most feasible plan at present would seem to be to establish them in connection with our High Schools, which now form an integral part of our public school system.

As very little of the patronage of these schools would come from the rural districts (which are already well supplied with Agricultural Colleges), they should be established in our largest commercial and manufacturing centers. Philadelphia, would, of course, be the proper location for the Eastern branch, and Pittsburgh of the Western branch.

We are not specially informed concerning the facilities already afforded for a commencement with the Philadelphia High School. But judging from the reports of the State Superintendent, with reference to the Pittsburgh Central High School, in relation to its equipments, and the initial steps already taken in technical education, we think this institution could be readily adapted to technical instruction such as is contemplated by the projectors of the Mechanics' High School. Indeed, the public schools of Pittsburgh may now be said to be preparatory schools for this kind of instruction. The introduction of drawing, which is a very important branch of technical instruction, and of the elements of physics, the foundation of technical instruction, into our ward schools, was a step in the right direction.

These schools must be an outgrowth of themselves, and it is better to commence on an economical scale, and gradually work them into popular favor and usefulness, than to begin with a large expenditure of money on buildings, and equipments which may not prove practicable.

WHEN King KALAKAUA was in Boston, the other day, he was waited upon by certain representatives of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, who presented his Majesty with an address. For the tenor of this address not only the American Board but Boston itself has been severely criticized by a portion of the press; the Board being censured for making the address, and Boston being censured, no doubt, for allowing such an address to be offered, or possibly for containing the men capable of making it. The Board reminded King DAVID that just fifty years ago the company of missionaries who converted the Hawaiians to Christianity had sailed from the port of Boston. What state of things the missionaries found in the islands when they arrived there, the Board left the King to recall at his leisure. They, however, quoted the statement of the Hon. H. A. PIERCE, that "in 1825 Hawaiians were ignorant and debased, though amiable and hospitable, and possessing greater intelligence than other Polynesian races." They also reminded his Majesty that at present they are "advanced to a high degree of Christian knowledge, general education, civilization, and material prosperity,—a result due for the most part, under God, to the labors of American missionaries."

At the first glance it does strike one as a decidedly peculiar and original mode of seeking to make an agreeable impression upon the royal mind. Probably the part of courtiers was never precisely so performed before. But after all, perhaps the genuine men of the American Board showed their respect for the King's understanding and good sense by their frank assumption that he would take no offense at having naked, unquestionable facts called to mind. They treated him with Christian sincerity. Perhaps they felt that amidst the glorification and manifold attentions he is receiving in this country, he might forget the many reasons for humility which the history of his people suggest, and that it was an act of genuine Christian kindness to remind him of the pit from which he and they had been dug.

Again, it may be seriously doubted whether King KALAKAUA is capable of perceiving any meaning in the criticism which the address has provoked. Probably the gentlemen of the American Board know the King's spirit better than the critics know it. The royal mind is most likely quite free from tenderness touching the point raised in his behalf. If reports of intelligent travelers may be depended upon, the Hawaiian Christian mind of to-day does not enter into or sympathize with the disgust with which Americans or Europeans think of some of the institutions which Christianity formally abolished in the Sandwich Islands. Certainly if King DAVID is able to do that, then those several New York gentlemen who asked his Majesty what he thought of MARK TWAIN's account of the Sandwich Islanders, fell into a much graver act of discourtesy than anything done by the representatives of the American Board. For the same reason, also, MARK TWAIN himself grievously erred in calling upon his Majesty, and especially in asking him to dine or lunch with him, an invitation, by the way, declined. However, we do not believe that there was any serious offense or annoyance in either case.

WE PUBLISH, to-day, the full text of a letter from HENRY WILSON, our Vice President, to the Springfield *Republican*, in vindication of the Republican party, and of its claims to continued public confidence. This letter has in it the ring of the genuine metal, and a perusal of it will cheer the hearts of all whose faith has not been shaken in the grand old party that saved the nation in the hour of its peril. The Vice President has been with this party from the start. He joined it from a deep conviction of the rightfulness of its principles, and he has battled in it and for it with a steady perseverance that have given proof of the earnestness of his faith. He presided here in Pittsburgh, in February, 1856, over the first National Convention of the Republican party. He helped to frame its creed, and he has been its steady and consistent advocate. He has a right, then, to speak to and be heard by his old party friends and associates, and he calls upon them, with a hearty confidence in the correctness of his judgment, to stand by the old Republican flag and maintain the only organization capable of resisting and overcoming the Democratic party. We commend his eloquent letter to the study of our Republican readers, assured that they will rise up from reading it convinced that his counsel is wise and his judgment unimpeachable.

A SHOCKING incident of histrionic viciousness is reported by a St. Louis paper. A party of famished emigrants from South Carolina arrived at Dallas, Texas, the other day. The starving mothers could hardly hold their half-dead infants, and the wailing of the children for warmth and food was piteous in the extreme. They had no place to sleep that raw winter night, and were grouped upon the ground in vacant lots, when a girl only seventeen years of age tripped lightly out of what the Rev. Talmage calls "the gateway of hell," and, learning of their distress, borrowed money enough to feed them, and sheltered them in her own house for the night. This demon was not satisfied until the Mayor and others had been roused to a proper spirit of benevolence, and had supplemented her charity with additional clothing and vittals. The she-devil's name is Nellie Collins, and she retards civilization by dancing with clogs at the Dallas Varieties for six dollars a week. And the Dallas people were a million times worse than we are inclined to praise her.

BETWEEN May and October, 1874, therewere banished to Siberia 16,889 persons. Of these unfortunates, 1,229, being criminals of the worst description, were sentenced to hard labor, and 1,624 had been expelled from their communities as obnoxious, drunken or burdensome. The exiles were voluntarily accompanied by 1,080 women and children over fifteen years of age, with 1,297 younger children. Ten years ago the number of criminals exiled to Siberia in a twelvemonth was ten times greater than the above total, which shows either a diminution of crime or a merciful mitigation of punishment.

THE Auditor of Massachusetts estimates the total expenditures of the State for 1875 to be $5,214,550, and the total income, including $886,035 75 in the treasury, to be $3,568,983 75, leaving a deficit to be made up by taxation of $1,645,566 25. The figures given are these expenditures do not emorace any new grants that may be made by the present Legislature. As a spirit of economy is abroad in Massachusetts, it is not likely that grants of money to any large amount will be passed during the present year.

The American Express Company has determined that no more easy robberies shall be perpetrated on that company. Every messenger is furnished with a revolver, and an abundance of fire arms are kept on the express car. Each messenger also has a body guard of one.

A company has been organized in Alabama, with $700,000 capital, to cultivate petrie, the new fibre, there.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

London is looking for Tom Paine's bones.

Beecher, Illinois, wants its name changed.

Everyone in San Francisco seems to be going crazy in stock speculations.

The name of the Bureau of Statistics is to be changed to that of Commerce and Statistics.

The *Tribune* is sick. It has Grant on the brain, Louisiana on the stomach and Pacific Mail on the bowels.

A Connecticut firm has just received an order for wooden type from China, to be cut in Chinese characters.

Widow Bedott used to "enjoy poor health," and Beecher declares he is the happiest man in the nation.

Some "sassy" fellow in Oswego county, New York, has just sent Queen Victoria half a barrel of apple butter.

Newspapers now prepay postage. "Yes," a Wisconsin editor says, "this is the grasshopper that will chaw us up."

"John Proparrhegopoulous, Russian Minister to Athens, is dead." And no wonder, with such an incubus of a name.

Copperhead Eaton must now have a care in the United States Senate, when he takes his seat, or Dawes will peck at him.

They are again trying to reopen Fitz John Porter's case. He ought to feel thankful that he wasn't shot for treachery.

It is proposed to authorize the use of information received in the Dead Letter Office in the prosecution of criminals.

Honoring their "heroes." The birthday of Robert E. Lee was generally commemorated throughout the South, on Tuesday.

The quantity of grain exported from Philadelphia during 1874 was 5,395,840 bushels, against 3,675,457 in 1873—a large gain.

Consolidation of the three grand divisions of the Illinois Supreme Court is being talked and written of extensively in that State.

The receipts of wheat at New York last year aggregated 6,597,500 centals, against 6,117,900 during the same time in 1873, and 7,069,600 in 1872.

The annual meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Educational Association will be held in Washington on the 27th instant.

The aggregate amount of commercial deposits in Chicago was $8,000,000 more on the list of January, this year, than at the corresponding date of 1874.

One of the first fruits of the forthcoming Democratic conference at Washington will be, it is said, the appearance of a brand-new Democratic organ in that city.

Virginia accuses Maryland of sneaking into her oyster-beds stealthily and securing plunder. They are quarreling about it in the Virginia Legislature.

The strength of paper barrels is said to be greater by four times than wooden barrels, while they are of only half the weight, and cost twenty per cent. less.

Bad for the company. It is rumored that Jay Gould has sold his stock in the *Tribune* and invested the proceeds in the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company.

Dakota Territory declares she will not pay to transport articles to the Centennial. Bless us! How in the world will the celebration manage to get along without her?

It is now stated that nine-tenths of the "gold" in those Newburyport, Massachusetts, mines is "fool's gold," or iron pyrites. There is plenty of silver and lead, though.

The stoppage of the payment of the Lake Shore dividend by an injunction has injured that road in a very serious manner. The shrinkage in its stock is two and a half millions.

The Dominion Telegraph Company have introduced a lower tariff for the transmission of night messages, by adopting a special rate of fifteen cents for not exceeding ten words.

It is said that the cattle business has about "played out" in Western Texas, a matter not likely to produce any serious regrets among the honest portion of the community.

The fascination of the unknown. Three new exploring expeditions are now being rapidly fitted out to search for the Polar Sea, one by England, one by Russia, and one by France.

With all the reforming of the present day, no two men have earned more gratitude than Bergh, in protecting dumb creatures, and Comstock, in destroying poisonous literature.

Very promising gold discoveries, about thirty miles southeast of Fort Laramie, have been made, which it is believed will be worked with marked success during the next summer.

Somebody who believes in common sense and a substantial character, has presented to Rutgers College $1,000 to found three prizes in spelling, reading and English grammar.

A bill has been introduced in Congress to give proper names to the streets of Washington. It ought to pass at once. But the thieves' lexicon will have to be ransacked to find them.

Western culture does not seem to hitch cordially with the plow. The President of the Kansas Agricultural College complains that not one graduate of that institution has become a farmer since 1867.

The grain exports from New York last year reached 5,479,900 centals, consisting of 172 cargoes, valued at $8,619,300. During the same period the exports of flour were 209,409 barrels, valued at $992,000.

A counterfeit five hundred dollar greenback is a disagreeable thing to find in one's small change. A very well executed counterfeit of that denomination has lately been discovered in circulation in Maine.

Giving a new note does not pay an old debt, nor remove the dishonor of a protest, nor does the changing the form of an obligation create the ability to pay it; but Democratic Virginia seems to fancy that it does.

There will be two eclipses of the sun this year, one on April 6, not visible in the United States, and another on September 29, visible east of the Mississippi. Next year there will be a grand eclipse of the Democracy.

A club of leading men in social and business circles has been organized in Cincinnati on the basis of the London and New York clubs. Nearly all the prominent men in the city are interested in the enterprise.

The *Lumberman's Journal* does not take a very hopeful view of the lumber trade the coming season. It thinks the promise of the winter is for full time and work, and says that sales are large and are only made at low prices and easy terms.

Soup-Houses for the Indolent.

The St. Louis *Republican* relates this little story with a big moral to it: "Saturday morning Messrs. James A. Smith & Co., ice dealers, went to the soup-house and engaged thirty strapping fellows to cut ice for them, promising to pay each man $1 50 a day as long as the weather was cold enough for cutting. The men were taken on the street cars, fare paid, and conducted to the river, where tools were ready for them to go to work. Arrived at the field in which they were to labor, the newly-hired hands began to look about them and rub their fingers. They said it was cold. They didn't like the prospect, and, after standing about in sulky groups for a few minutes, twenty-eight of them started back down town on foot, the other two walk willingly, either. They ventured to express the opinion that the parties who had brought them away off up there ought to pay their fare back. They had to walk though, poor, tender-footed fellows, and they didn't propose to be caught in any such snap again. They lodge nightly at the House of the Homeless, and have plenty of bread and soup furnished them daily at the soup-house, and what more can they ask? Verily, it is a fine thing to have a contented mind. Their doom is about to fall, however. Messrs. Smith & Co. say they can employ three hundred men for three weeks, taking out 15,000 tons of ice, and they are willing to pay them $1 50 a day each. They have made arrangements to go at six o'clock in the morning and select one hundred and fifty of the able-bodied loafers in the free institutions of the city. The police furnishes an efficient guard of patrolmen and marches the gang to the foot of North Market street, where they are furnished with something to eat and tools to do it with. Such as refuse to work are to be sent to the Police Court as first-class vagrants. Sergeant Chapman says he has three hundred men in a dozen strongers at the Third District Station for tickets within the past two weeks. It is the same old crowd night after night. The tickets are laid on the railing of the office and they just walk in and take one. Some of them say they are going to stay by the soup all winter; others declare they have worked their way clear from New York to enjoy our hospitality, and one solitary individual gives tangible sign that he is trying to do something better. He has friends in the East, and wants to go to them. Every day he goes out and looks for work. What he earns he takes to the station and leaves with the Sergeant, who keeps it in an envelope for him. It is slow work—only eighty-five cents for the best day yet, but the man expects to succeed, and to live on better than soup-house fare."

PERSONAL.

Peter Lee, of Newport, R. I., has gone in search of Charlie Ross, being directed by a dream.

Charles W. Plummer, a Newark, N. J., lady-killer, has had to pay Miss Grace E. Plummer, a belle of the same city, for "hugging her on the parlor sofa, kissing her every time they met, and going to sleep on her shoulder," the neat sum of $5,000; but as this sort of thing went on for sixteen months, the bill was, perhaps, not excessive.

A detachment sent out under Lieutenant Hinckle, of the Fifth Infantry, from Fort Wallace, the other day, captured, after a short chase, four Indians on Smoky Hill, southeast of Fort Wallace. One of them is a Cheyenne chief, who refuses to tell his name. It is hoped that he is Medicine Water, one of the worst of the hostile Cheyennes, and who is known to be trying to make his way to the North side of the Platte.

There is great commotion in upper social circles, in Washington, over the persistent declaration of Mrs. Briggs that the receipts of the recent Centennial Tea-party must have been nearer $14,000 than $6,000. A member of the committee asserted her that a large sum was expended for Martha Washington night-caps, lunches, hacks, etc. A city newspaper refused her answer to the committee's explanation, on the ground that to publish the facts would create a social earthquake in the Capital.

The following is a copy of a placard now circulating through the mails, bearing no date:

£1,000 REWARD.—A BOOK.—Any person having in his possession a certain book, painted in London by T. Jackson, Newgate street, in 1830, with the name of M. Lindsell, Paternoster row, on the title page as publisher, against the publication of which the Lord Chancellor issued an injunction, it containing certain statements regarding a member of the Royal Family, will receive the above reward in gold by bringing the book to Mr. G. Golbourne, 35 Duke street, London, or B. R. Brown, 599 Broadway, New York, U. S. Only one copy is known to be in the United States.

Missouri has developed an unconscious humorist. He is in the Legislature, representing a proud constituency in St. Louis. A number of the boys subscribed some seven hundred dollars, which, in the form of plate, they proposed to present to their representative, M. K. McGrath. He was asked to be at home on a certain Saturday evening, but replied by telegraph that he would rather not come, since he understood that it was the intention "to make me a present of something appreciative." "I am," added this singularly high-minded public servant, "and always have been opposed to public displays to officials in the way of presents, addresses, etc. *If you have concluded to do anything of the kind, give it to my wife.*"

The severity with which Archbishop Manning is enforcing his will upon the Catholics in England is shown by the fact that in the recent "Catholic Directory," published in London, the name of Lord Camoys has been stricken from the list of Catholic peers. Lord Camoys has for a long time been one of the most celebrated of Catholic noblemen. When Archbishop Manning published his letter on the Vatican decrees his lordship dissented from the Episcopal construction of the doctrine of Papal infallibility. The Archbishop consequently replies by striking his name from the list of Catholic peers, thus virtually certifying to the world that he no longer recognizes him as a member of the church.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.
CHARTERED IN 1852.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid on the first days of May and November, computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.
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Allegheny Commercial School,
In Girard Bank Building, Allegheny.
W. W. McCLELLAND, Principal,
And Teacher of Penmanship.
PROF. S. D. EVERHART, of the Pittsburgh High School, Teacher of BOOK-KEEPING and COMMERCIAL CALCULATIONS.
EVENING CLASSES, 7 TO 9 P. M.
AFTERNOON CLASSES, 2 TO 4 P. M.
TEACHERS' CLASS 10 TO 12 A. M. SATURDAYS.
Persons desiring to fit themselves for Teachers can obtain a thorough knowledge of Plain and Ornamental Penmanship. [7:th

HOTELS.
SHIELDS HOUSE,
FORMERLY RED LION,
STAHLMAN & McCOY
PROPRIETORS,
No. 7 Sixth Street, Near Suspension Bridge.
Thoroughly Renovated and Refitted. Can be reached from all points by street cars.
☞ TERMS REASONABLE.

Girard House Hotel Company
H. W. KANAGA,
Ninth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.
The House has been recently renovated and improved, over $50,000 having been expended in Furniture and Gas Fixtures. Passenger Elevator runs to all the floors.
$3 00 PER DAY.

LUBBERS'
LIST OF
WINES,
BRANDIES,
HOLLAND GINS,
WHISKIES
AND ALES!
FOREIGN CHAMPAGNE.
Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin; G. H Mumm & Co.'s Extra Dry; G. H Mumm & Co.'s Dry Verzenay; Charles Heidsieck, Piper Heidsieck, George Goulet; Fleur de Vigne, F. Schleifer & Co.; Vin Imperial Carte d'Or.
DOMESTIC CHAMPAGNE.
M. Werk & Son's Golden Eagle; M. Werk & Son's Dry Golden Eagle; Island Queen, Golden Eagle, Sparkling California, Golden Leaf Sparkling Catawba, H. Piper & Co., Grape Leaf Sparkling Catawba, Prize Medal, Sparkling Napoleon.
FRENCH BRANDIES,
FINE ASSORTMENT.
Old Pinet, Castillon & Co., 1830; L. Furland & Co., Cognac; Geo. Sayers & Co., Cognac; Jules Robin & Co., Cognac; Otard, Dupuy & Co., Cognac; Renault & Co., Cognac; James Hennessy & Co., Cognac; J. & F. Martell, Cognac.
HOLLAND GINS,
(FINE IMPORTED.)
Von Dulken, Weiland & Co., Rotterdam; Jacoby & Co., Schiedam; Vonthofen & Co., Amsterdam.
STILL WINES.
Catawba and Rhine Wine by the bottle; Sherry, Port, Blackberry, Berliner, Kummel, Claret.
Dr. Reeley's California Bitters, Jamaica Rum and Bay Rum, and Choice Brands of Scotch, Irish and Old Monongahela Rye Whiskeys: Bass' London Ale, Guinness' Dublin Porter, &c., &c.
B. H. Lubbers,
No. 386 Fifth Ave.,
NEARLY OPPOSITE FIFTH AVE. BANK,
☞ Orders by Mail will Receive Prompt Attention.

DRY GOODS.
CLOSING OUT
TO QUIT THE
RETAIL DRY GOODS
BUSINESS.
A. D. M'Kee
NOW OFFERS HIS
ENTIRE STOCK IN RETAIL
At Greatly Reduced Prices,
TO CLOSE OUT THE STOCK,
AT
No. 59 Market St.
Must be sold out BEFORE JANUARY 1st.

GREAT
Closing Out
SALE!
$125,000
WORTH OF
Dry Goods
Marked Down to Close Out!
James Caldwell & Co.
Have Marked Down the Prices of their Large Stock of Dry Goods with a view to Close Out, preparatory to Removing to their New Store in the Fall.
Buyers in want of Goods will find this a rare opportunity to purchase Choice Goods, at Low Prices, as many Goods will be sold
REGARDLESS OF COST.
The Stock is now Complete in Every Department.
To Secure Choice Seasonable Goods it will be necessary to call early.
A choice lot of Pure Silk Warp Hernanis reduced from $1 25 to $1 00 per yard.
Black French Silks, from $1 50 to $1 25 per yard.
Black Alpacas, from 50c to 37 1-2c per yard.
Chintzes, from 31c to 20c per yard.
Fancy Dress Goods, from 25c to 15c per yard.
James Caldwell & Co.,
118 and 120
Federal St., Allegheny.
Winter Goods.
California Blankets,
Eastern Blankets,
Country Blankets,
Shaker Flannels,
Twilled Flannels,
Barred Flannels,
Down Comforts.
Cotton Batting Comforts.
We have a Full Stock of
MUSLINS AND DOMESTIC GOODS
WHICH WE ARE SELLING VERY LOW.
White, Orr & Co.,
35 FIFTH AVENUE.

CARPETS.
Buyers' Opportunity!
We are offering especial Bargains in those CARPETS that it will be impossible for us to duplicate in making up our Spring Stock.
It will inure greatly to the advantage of all who can anticipate their Spring wants to purchase now, as these Goods are selling away below prices that will rule for same grades when the season opens.
OLIVER M'CLINTOCK & COMPANY,
23 FIFTH AVENUE.
CARPETS!
SPLENDID ASSORTMENT!
Elegant Designs!
LOWEST PRICES,
All Grades.
BOVARD, ROSE & CO.,
NEW NO. 29 FIFTH AVE.
J. & H. PHILLIPS,
Manufacturers and Dealers in
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GREEN SHADE CLOTH A SPECIALTY.
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Nos. 26 and 28 SIXTH STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA.
1874. FALL AND WINTER 1875
HATS, CAPS
AND
FURS!
A Large and Attractive Stock
OF
NEW DESIRABLE GOODS,
FOR THE
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.
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PATENTS.
Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets.
NO PATENT—NO PAY.
☞ Send for a Circular.

DRY GOODS.
Wednesday, Jan. 20.
BARGAINS IN
DRESS GOODS,
Ladies' Made-Up Suits,
SHAWLS, JACKETS,
SACQUES, &c.,
Ladies' and Children's Furs!
We will offer Unusual Good Inducements to Purchasers in the above Goods, having added Many New and Attractive Bargains within the last few days.
At 12½c, Very Desirable Dark Dress Goods.
At 15c, Choice Style Dark Dress Goods.
At 18c and 22½c, Extra Good Dress Goods.
Remarkable Bargains in Black Alpacas.
Black All-wool Cashmeres, at very low prices.
French Merinos and Cashmeres, all colors.
Tycoon Repps, less than usual prices.
Fine Dress Goods, decided bargains.
Mourning Dress Goods, every description.
Black Dress Silks, new bargains.
At 85 00, Navy Blue Suits, for Ladies.
At $1 00, All-Wool Heavy Shawls, full size.
At 25c, All-Wool Shoulder Shawls.
Bargains in Woolen Shawls, all kinds.
Ladies' Best Suits, at very low prices.
Ladies' Jackets and Sacques, extra bargains.
Furs of every kind, at very low prices.
A Lot of Remnants and Short Lengths
OF
DRESS GOODS.
AT WILL
165, 167 and 169
WHOLESA
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EXPLOSIONS!

PREVENTED BY ANDERSON'S

SAFETY VALVE!

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PRACTICAL
Plumber, Gas and Steam Fitter,
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For acknowledged Superior Quality, at the Lowest Current Prices.
FIRE AND CLAY PULVERIZERS,
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Of Every Description.
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PLAIN AND GROOVED.
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Of Improved Construction.
Mills for Grinding Brick Clay,
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Patent Semi-Steel, and Cast Iron
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Cast and Finished equal to Any, at Lowest Current Rates.
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Special attention given to unusual shapes and sizes.
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Lithographing of Sections and Books of detailed information, giving calculations of strains, &c., furnished on application.

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Manufacturers STEAM ENGINES of all classes and GENERAL MACHINE WORK. Also, CASTINGS made to order, of Iron or Brass.
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HOUSE FRONTS A SPECIALTY.
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W. J. HAMMOND,
DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF
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Also, Rolling Mills and Forges supplied with IRON CUT TO ORDER or FAGGOTED, as I have Two (2) Sets of Rolling Mill Shears constantly running cutting Iron for Forgoing and other purposes.
OFFICE AND YARDS,
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ORDERS SOLICITED.

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ECLIPSE
SAFETY STEAM
BOILERS!
Stationary, Portable and Marine
5 to 1,000 Horse Power.
The advantages over other Boilers secured by the Eclipse are:
First—Safety from risk of destructive explosion.
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Fifth—Simplicity of Furnace. Connections and Form of Construction.
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Seventh—Freedom from Expansion, Strains and Leaks.
Eighth—Effective circulation attained by the use of tubes and large returns.
Eclipse Steam Generators are adapted to heavy or light service, high or low pressure, or steady and unequal work.
Castings are made of Semi-Steel; the Tubes are lap-welded, the double incline of which gives a rapid and powerful circulation of water for removing sediment; and a perfect arrangement for expansion and contraction. The Sectional Form allows Steam Capacity to be increased, diminished or divided without change to parts, and the improved Lock-Nut does away with caulking, packing or gaskets.

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Illustrated Circulars and Estimates furnished.

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Repairing done promptly. Orders sent to the above will be promptly attended to.

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Wm. B. Scaife & Sons,
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PITTSBURGH, PA.,
Erect in Any Part of the United States,
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Iron Mill Buildings
COVERED WITH
CORRUGATED IRON,
MANUFACTURERS OF
Corrugated Iron,
FOR ROOFING OR SIDING WOODEN FRAME BUILDINGS.
The demand for CORRUGATED IRON increases yearly as its merits become known, for Sidings, as well as Covering all classes of Manufacturing Establishments where it is desirable to decrease the amount of wood used as a safety from fire.

Fourth Ward Foundry and Engine Works.
THOS. CARLIN,
Manufacturer of STEAM ENGINES, PULLEYS, SHAFTING, HANGERS, Mill and Machine Castings, Sash Weights, &c., &c. Have a number of New and Second-hand ENGINES and BOILERS FOR SALE.
1S6, 188 and 190 Lacock and 37 Sandusky Streets, ALLEGHENY CITY, PA.

STEEL MANUFACTURERS.

STEEL CASTINGS,
UNDER HAINSWORTH'S PATENT.
We are making Steel Castings, Smooth, True, Free from Blow-holes, and Stronger than Wrought Iron. Can be Forged or Welded easily as Bar Steel, and Strong as Forged Steel.
PITTSBURGH STEEL CASTING CO.,
Twenty-sixth and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Black Diamond Steel Works.
PARK, BROTHER & CO.,
Manufacturers of All Descriptions of
STEEL.
Office and Warehouse: Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Railroad streets, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Steel Works.
ANDERSON & WOODS,
SUCCESSORS TO ANDERSON, COOK & CO.
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FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 20, 1875.

A rather curious case, and one of some interest, was recently decided in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Massachusetts. It seems that the Massachusetts National bank loaned to James A. Coe $22,000 on call, taking as security a certificate of 200 shares of a railroad company, which afterward proved to have been raised by Coe from two shares. The certificate had been taken by the bank in good faith, and on their calling the loan it was duly paid by Coe. On the back of the certificate was the usual printed form of transfer, which, on being returned to Coe, was duly signed, as is customary, by the cashier of the Massachusetts National bank. Subsequently the plaintiff in this case, one Nathan Matthews, loaned Coe $25,000 on call, and took as collateral the certificate, bearing the indorsement of the cashier of the bank, supposing the instrument to be genuine. Coe failed, and Matthews becoming aware of the fraudulent character of the certificate, notified the bank, the defendants in this case, that he would hold it responsible for any loss incurred by him, and brought suit to recover the damages so sustained.

The question involved was whether the bank, by signing the blank transfer, so far warranted the genuineness of the certificate that it was estopped from setting up the forgery as a defense to this action.

The defendants denied that the cashier had the authority to so bind the bank. The learned judge held that as bank cashiers are held out to the public as having authority to act according to general usage, their acts, within the scope of such usage, will bind the bank. That the signing of transfers is an act within the scope of general usage. This being decided, the question returns, to what extent the signing the transfer by the bank was a warranty of the genuineness of the certificate, and whether the bank is estopped from setting up the forgery as a defense. The Court stated that in the case of forged negotiable instruments it was well settled that the indorser warrants that the instrument itself, and the antecedent signatures thereon, are genuine, and that the same rule of law applies with equal force to the case of a transfer of a certificate of stock by indorsement in blank, and adds:

"The certificate in this case, as it came from the bank, contained on the same piece of paper and on the back of the certificate, a blank assignment, which read 'For value received, I transfer the title of the stock as between the parties.' The defendants, unless otherwise said to have intended and agreed that, whoever should present the certificate as issued from the bank, with the assignment executed in blank, should be entitled to fill up the blanks with his own name and to have a transfer of the stock on the books of the company. The certificate, accompanied with the printed assignment executed in blank, was capable of negotiating of a peculiar character, but one well recognized in commercial transactions, including stock sales, and absolutely essential in the usage and necessities of modern commerce, to make such certificates available in commercial transactions. The power to fill is given for the purpose of transferring title, and whenever a bank is filled a contract of sale is established between the party who has signed the blank and the party in whose name it is rightfully filled in as assignee."

Judge Shepley goes on to state that by delivering the forged certificate to Coe with the printed form of transfer signed in blank, the bank gave it a respectability in which it otherwise would not have had, and put it in Coe's power to commit the fraud on Matthews; and, as the negligence was on the part of the bank, it must, according to numerous former decisions in similar cases, be held responsible. That the bank cannot set up the fact of the forgery of the instrument, because it would be a wrong on its own part and an injury to others whose conduct has been influenced by its acts and omissions. Judgment was accordingly rendered for the plaintiff.

—Mr. Osterberg, editor of the *German-American Economist*, has recently addressed a letter to General Spinner on the subject of the national finances, which is worthy of attention. He deprecates the idea that Congress should fix a day for the resumption of specie payments, asking what guarantee there can be that the Treasury will be in a condition to carry out the law at the specified time. "If Congress," he says, "passes a law that specie payment shall be resumed, say July, 1876, it merely puts the whole question off for that length of time. It gives the gold speculators the certainty that nothing will be done before July, 1876, to disturb their gambling." In conclusion, he says:

"We can make specie payments in three months, just as well as in one, two or three years. Do we need years to prepare for it? Another treasury run of stock will have never accomplished it, and always lost specie. Shall we go on doing so for six months to fall into the same mistakes. To resume specie payments we must have specie. We must have more specie than we have now, and more than we will ever be able to retain from that furnished by our business, as we are notably changed. We quote prime timothy on change at $2 00@2 05 ₱ bush; do $2 00@2 05 inferior $2 00@2 05 baled hay from store is quoted at $24 00@25 00. Loose do is $20 00@22 00 ₱ ton. Straw is quoted at $15 00@18 00 for No. 2. Straw is quoted at $15 00@18 00 ₱ ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is in fair demand at $1 10@1 15 ₱ cwt; shorts $1 20@1 30 ₱ cwt; chop feed $1 30@1 40 ₱ cwt; middlings $1 50@1 60 ₱ cwt; oilmeal $1 90@2 00 ₱ cwt.

GROCERIES.

In the grocery trade here, there is not much to note except the continued quiet which amounts almost to stagnation. Coffees are firm, especially the roasted article, and jobbers have to pay full figures. Sugars show a firm tone in stock with a firm market reported, as well as in molasses and syrups, while teas, spices and rice are not materially altered. Prices current of standard groceries are as follows:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb	Spices.	
Fancy	21½@	Cloves	35 @
Choice	20 @	Cassia, Batavia	40 @
Prime	19 @	Cassia, ₱ lb	40 @
Good	18 @	Nutmegs, ₱ lb	85@1 40
Low grade	17 @	Pepper, ₱ lb	30 @
Roasted Coffees.		*Molasses.*	₱ gal.
Rio, in bulk	22 @	Strictly prime N O	72 @
Rio, in bulk	21 @	Prime	68 @
Java	40 @	Good	58 @
Sugars.		*Syrups.*	
Standard A	10½@	Fair, white drips	75 @
Standard A, powdered	11 @	Fair, golden drips	65 @
Standard extra C	10 @	Lower grades	45@50
Standard bards	11½@	*Rotrins.*	
Fresh granulated	11 @	Layers, ₱ box	$1 40
American extra C	9½@	Valentias, ₱ lb	12 @
New Orleans	8½@	Currants, ₱ lb	11 @
Teas.		*Starch.*	
Young Hyson	50@$1 00	Common	5 @
Imperial	50@	Good	6 @
Japan	50@	Corn	10½@
Gunpowder	50@	*Soda.*	
Fancy	1 00	Bi-carb, ₱ lb kegs	6@
Souchong	25@	Bi-carb, ₱ lb papers	8@
Rice.		*Candles.*	
Choice Carolina	8@	Star, full weight	18@
Good	7@7½	Sperm	45@
Rangoon	7½@		

Of the New York markets the *Bulletin* says: Refined sugar shows a firmer tone in regard to prices, and a fair demand has prevailed within the last few days at 10½@10¾c for hard grades, and 10c for soft. The stock in the hands of a number of prominent refiners have ceased producing for the present, and those who have the power to do so have limited their production to a moderate quantity, and in some instances are running only a sufficient course of refining interest has grown out of the old trouble in the Sugar Trade, which are claimed to be unremunerative, and from the unanimity with which measures for protection in this respect are being taken, it would certainly seem as though there were ample grounds for the exception.

Tea has continued very firm in price, owing to the probability of the duty being restored, and holders are not disposed to make concessions. Considerable Oolong has been taken—fully 500 chests during the week—owing to the relative cheapness of that description; of green and Japan there has also been very fair sales at firm prices, however, the feature of the week was that considerably larger sales could have been effected, had it not been for the views of holders, in some instances, far above buyers' ideas. The line trade has been quiet and prices are unchanged. Rice is firm.—There is a fair demand at prices generally unchanged. We quote as follows:

No. 1 extra mess	Large do, ₱ bbl
No. 1 mess	Small do, ₱ bbl
No. 1 mess	₱ lb
No. 1 family, shore, ₱ bbl	White fish, ₱ half bbl
Extra No. 1 bay	Lake herring, ₱
No. 1 bay	₱ bbl
Extra No. 2 mess	Labrador herring,
No. 2 bay	₱ bbl
No. 3	Round do
Georges codfish	₱ lb
medium, ₱ 100	

TOBACCO—The market is quiet and unchanged. Quotations are as follows:

Leaf	Rough & Ready
Black Navy	Fine Cut Plugs
Black Tens	Fine Cut Fancy
Black Spun Yarn	Cut and Dry
Louisville Navy	Scotch Snuff
Louisville Twist	Black Snuff
Virginia Navy	Six Twist
Virginia Twists	Cigars—
Virginia Fancy	Pennsylvania Seed
Double Thick	Connecticut
Blunt Pounds	Seed & Havana
Bright Pounds	Havana
CARBON OIL—The market is steady. We quote 115@125c from store; sales found lots on the cars are made at a reduction from these figures.	

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES—The market continues dull. Receipts for the past two weeks 327 bbls. The stock on hand is liberal, but dealers report little or no demand. Transactions are almost entirely in a jobbing way. Extra choice apples are quoted at $2 25 ₱ bbl; $1 75@2 00 for choice; $1 00@1 20 for common to medium. On large lots these prices would be shaded.

APPLE BUTTER—Is in fair supply and prices are easy. We quote at 5@6c ₱ gallon, in kegs, for prime; 5c for common.

BEANS—The demand is light and supply liberal. We quote prime white navy at $2 00@2 25; medium do $1 90@1 95; fair to good $1 50@1 70.

BUTTER.—There seems to be no improvement in the demand, which is cut down more by the circumstances of consumers than any other causes, and there is no remarkable change to note, but are more than this market requires. Prices are weak and barely maintained. We quote 22@23c ₱ lb for choice; 20@25c for medium; 12@15c for common.

BUCKWHEAT—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 31@33c ₱ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 34@35c ₱ lb.

CANDLES—Sperm and Buckwheat flour is rather easy, and in sales at $3 50@3 75 ₱ box; do extra, $4 00@4 50; Sweitzer buckwheat flour is quoted, in 6 ₱ packages, at $4 20 ₱ doz packages.

CHEESE—The market continues quiet here, the consumptive demand having become so light as to make trade very dull. A moderate jobbing selling is reported in the Eastern markets. We quote at 16@17c ₱ lb for Ohio factory; New York factory, 17@18c; Sweitzer 18@19c ₱ lb. Receipts 207 boxes for the past two weeks.

EGGS—The market is comparatively steady. We quote at 27@28c ₱ dozen for strictly fresh in barrels; 29@30c in cases; pickled 26@28c.

CRANBERRIES—We quote at $8 00@10 00 for Western; $10 00@12 00 for Eastern; $14 00 ₱ barrel for packed.

GAME—We quote as follows: Venison—saddles 16@17c ₱ lb; whole deer 10@12c; prairie chickens $3 50@3 75 ₱ doz; pheasants $3 50@4 00 per doz; quail $1 25@1 50 ₱ doz; wild duck $5 75@6 00; rabbits 25@30c ₱ pair; squirrels 20@25c ₱ pair; wild turkeys $1 25@1 75 each.

HOMINY—The market is quiet at $1 75@1 90 ₱ barrel.

FRUITS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₱ lb, 7½@7½c for round lots; 7½@7½c in a jobbing way; No. 2, ₱ lb, 2½@3c, as to quality.

MINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a jobbing way.

POTATOES—Receipts have fallen off during the past week, being only 1,525 bushels the preceding week. Trade is rather dull, and is almost entirely in a jobbing way from store. We quote at 90@95c ₱ bushel for prime peach blows from store; medium grades 70@85c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—Supply fair and market firm. Quotations at 13@14c for chickens; 14@15c for turkeys.

PRESERVES AND DRIED FRUIT—We quote dried apples at 5@5½c ₱ lb; dried blackberries 10c ₱ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8@9c ₱ lb for choice halves. Apple butter is quoted at 5@5½c ₱ gallon. Honey is active and firm at 35c ₱ lb for clover; buckwheat blossom 25c ₱ lb. Medium pickles are quoted at $9 00 ₱ bbl; $5 00 ₱ half barrel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull, and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 15@18c ₱ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

PROVISIONS.

There is a fair trade demand, and prices are generally unchanged. The feature of the market appears to be downward, although jobbing prices have been remarkably steady. Receipts for the past two weeks are 14,350 pieces and 432 tierces, equal to 273,192 pounds.

BACON—We quote shoulders as 7½@7¾c for rib sides are quoted at 11¾@c; clear rib sides 12c; clear sides 12¾@.

HAMS—We quote sugar cured hams at 14c ₱ lb. Sugar-cured shoulders at 10½@10¾c; breakfast bacon is quoted at 14c; dried beef 15c; beef tongues, ₱ dozen, $7 00.

MESS PORK—The market is steady. We quote at $21 00 ₱ bbl.

LARD—We quote prime lard, in tierces, ₱ lb, 10½c; half bbls do 10¾c; buckets do 11c; 2-lb prints 11¾c; in 5-lb caddies 12¼c; in 5-lb caddies do 12c; in 10-lb pails do 12¼c; in 5-lb pails do 12½c; in 8-lb do 12c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 00@1 05 ₱ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 6@6c ₱ lb for choice, and 5@5½c for medium.

Dressed Hogs—The supply is fair and prices are well sustained. We quote at 7½@8c ₱ lb.

The foreign exports of the hog product from the undermentioned places for the week ending January 9, 1875, were:

	Pork. bbls.	Lard, kegs.	Bacon and hams. lbs.
From—			
New York	4,663	2,325,664	7,231,785
Boston (2 weeks)	221	29,970	2,573,851
Portland	45	600	343,775
Montreal			
Philadelphia	336	20,575	387,378
Baltimore			
Total	4,663	2,371,207	10,536,788
Previous week	3,321	3,904,210	7,893,595
Corresponding week			
1874	10,409	4,247,457	12,693,79

The position of the foreign exports of the new crop from November 1 to January 9 from the principal ports, in 1874, as compared with the exports from the same ports for the like period in 1873, is as follows:

	1874.	Decrease.
Pork.....lbs.	18,174,000	8,788,499	2,375,000
Lard.....lbs.	48,867,205	25,774,000	11,262,000
Bacon and hams.....lbs.	55,442,241	32,629,000	27,157,128
Total, lbs.....	160,160,447	113,960,875	48,255,474

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALES—We quote: X $6 00 ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Base Ungrish ale, in kilderkins of 22 gallons, $24 00@25 00; barrels, 41 gallons, $40 00@41 00; bbids, 68 gallons, $62 00@65 00; in cases, 4 dozen pints, $20 75. William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of eighteen bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale, $2 00@2 25 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Barke, $3 50@4 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 ₱ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₱ dozen.

BAKING POWDER—Sales as follows: 1 ₱ cans $1 50 ₱ doz; 1 ₱ cans $2 00; 1 ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $4 50; 5 ₱ cans $20 00; 10 ₱ boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Sales as follows: ¼ ₱ cans at $1 50 ₱ doz; ½ ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $4 50; 5 ₱ cans $20 00; 10 ₱ boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

BLACKING—Sales, refined, $1 00@1 50 ₱ doz; for black leaf; common $2 00@2 25; black lead $5 00; arsenic $5 00; potash $8 00; pearl ash $9 00; nitrate of soda $5 50@5 75.

BANNER BLACKING POWDER—Sales as follows: ¼ ₱ cans $1 50 ₱ doz; ½ ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $4 50; 5 ₱ cans $20 00; 10 ₱ boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $5 00 ₱ gross.

RAGS—Cotton at 2½@3c ₱ lb; and woolen at 3½c.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $3 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SOAP—Car lots, ₱ bbl, $4 00; jobbing lots $4 40 @4 80.

STAVES AND COOPERAGE—The market is steady. We quote as follows: Pipe staves, ₱ thousand; city made barrels $1 60@1 65; flour barrels, $1 40@1 45; keg staves, ₱ thousand, $1 60@1 65; pork barrels, $1 60@1 65; kegs, 5 gallon, $1 00; 10 gallon, $1 25; half barrels $1 50.

SHOT—Buck, ₱ bag, $1 60; hand sapolio, cases of

THE

Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

For one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 20, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Thr.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.48	9	78	W.	Calm.	Foggy.
2 P.M.	30.55	19	69	E.	Gentle	Cloudy
9 P.M.	30.34	14	90	E.	Gentle	Snow.

Mean barometer.....30.46 Highest thermom.....2
Mean thermom.....16 Lowest thermom.....

City Property Committee.

The City Property Committee organized yesterday by electing Mr. W. B. Hunter chairman.

The bills of Messrs. Loughrey & Calls for $100.60, and of John Reilly for $9 were presented and approved.

It was decided to ask an appropriation of $15,000 for the current year.

The sub-committees on station houses were announced.

The time of meeting was fixed as the third Thursday of each month.

Prompt Police Duty

On Tuesday night a party of "mudlarks" unceremoniously visited a house on Miltenberger's alley where a dance was in progress, and they undertook to "clean out" the men participating. Word was sent to the Seventh avenue engine house and relief requested. Several of the firemen promptly responded and in no time the larkswere flattened out and four of them were marcined to the Central Station House. They gave the names of John Wilson, Joseph Milliken, John Wilkins and John Williams. At the hearing yesterday morning after a statement of the case, Alderman Mayor McMasters let them off with one dollar and costs! Two of them paid up, and the other two, Wilkins and Williams, were locked up for forty-eight hours. It is stated that Milliken struck one of the fireman on the head with a smoothing iron.

Population and Dwellings.

An evening contemporary publishes a table showing the number of dwellings and families, and the number of persons to a dwelling, in sixteen of the principal cities. Pittsburgh is credited with 46,182 families, 14,224 dwellings, and 5.5 persons to a dwelling. The table was originally compiled by the New York *Journal of Commerce*, and the number of families was given at 16,182, instead of 46,182—a palpable error, 30,000 families could not feel very comfortable in 14,000 dwellings. But the table, as given by our contemporary, is otherwise incorrect, as it was compiled soon after the last census, and does not include the South Side at all. The number of families and dwellings, for the whole city, based upon the last census, is —families, 25,740; dwellings, 19,762. There are now over 20,000 dwellings in the city.

The Death of Major Hager.

A meeting of the members of Post No. 3 G. A. R. was held last evening to make arrangements for attending the funeral of their late comrade, Louis Hager. Samuel Kilgore was called to the chair, and Wm. Howe designated as Secretary.

On motion, it was resolved that the Post attend the funeral in a body, and that invitations be extended to Posts 88, 151 and 117 to join the procession.

It was also resolved that the members of the Post wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

On motion, Commander Crosby Gray was requested to call officers of the Post to take charge of the deceased comrade's remains on the occasion of the funeral. The detail is as follows: Commander, Crosby Gray; Jr. Vice Commander, R. W. Baldwin; Adjutant, Wm. Howe; Quarter Master, John F. Hunter; Officer of the Guard, John Bourne; Chaplain, Will M. Hartzell; Surgeon, Geo. B. Chalmers; Comrades, William Dalgleish.

As the funeral will take place at nine o'clock to-morrow (Friday) morning, members of Posts 5, 117 and 151 will meet at the hall, Post 3, Fourth avenue, and members of Post 88 at their Hall, in Allegheny, at eight o'clock A. M. W. W. Tyson will have charge of the G. A. R. procession.

City School Board Organizations.

We publish below further organizations of local school boards of the city:

WILKINS DISTRICT — THIRTY-SEVENTH WARD.

President, W. H. Devore.
Secretary, W. F. Gardiner.
Treasurer, Andrew Miller.
W. H. Devore, 1876; L. B. Davidson, 1876; W. F. Gardner, 1877; Levi Ludwick, 1877; Conrad Fox, 1878; John Fisher, 1878.

MINERSVILLE DISTRICT — THIRTEENTH WARD.

President, Joseph S. Lowry.
Secretary, W. S. McCutcheon.
Treasurer, George I. Whitney.
Joseph S. Lowry, 1876; W. S. McCutcheon, 1876; E. J. Taylor, 1877; George Sellers, 1877; Robert Arthurs, 1878; J. A. Hunter, 1878.

MT. ALBION DISTRICT — EIGHTEENTH WARD.

President, David Kirk.
Secretary, C. W. Lewis.
Treasurer, W. W. Young.
David Kirk, 1876; Wm. Francis, 1877; John McMasters, 1877; C. W. Lewis, 1878; James Davidson, 1878.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT — TWENTY-SEVENTH WARD.

President, August Ammon.
Secretary, Joseph Kimmel.
Treasurer, Martin Fagan.

A Young Mail Robber.

For a month past the General Freight Agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad has been troubled by the non-receipt and delivery of letters pertaining to his department. No serious losses were felt except a draft or check for some $133, but the occasion of receipt and delivery caused considerable annoyance and dissatisfaction. Information of the suspected robbery of the mail was given at the postoffice, and Postmaster Negley informed Special Postoffice Agent Henry of it. That official, after proper examination and watchfulness, became convinced that the depredations were committed outside of the office here—that no suspicion could attach to the employees. Two or three days observation confirmed Mr. Henry as to the culprit, and yesterday he suddenly lifted a lad who is employed as messenger and office boy at the freight agent's office. The boy had carefully selected certain letters from those he received from the office and put them in his pocket. Being apprehended he at once confessed and was taken into the Postoffice, where Mr. Carpenter, who was sent for, soon after met him. The boy confessed that he had been opening and destroying letters since about Christmas times. We learn from Mr. Carpenter that, with the exception of the check or draft referred to, the losses amount to but a few dollars. The boy denies having taken the draft, however. He is the son of a man who died in the employ of the company, and it is the wish of the officers that his name be withheld. Mr. Henry left the disposition of the case with Mr. Carpenter, and that gentleman let the boy go.

Mr. Henry desires that notice may be made of this case, so that other employers may be warned. This boy was in the habit of carrying letters to and from the office, and was tempted to theft. It is desired that business men, generally, look well to their own employees before they charge postoffice officials with delinquencies.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Baker and Farron performed to a moderate audience last evening, and gave general satisfaction to their friends and admirers who assembled for the purpose of amusement. Those who are fond of that class of amusements, of which these performers are such well-known lights, should not miss the opportunity of seeing and hearing them in "Chris and Lina," "The Muldoon Guards" and "The Little Fraud" as their leading songs, and were very well received. We predict a good house at their performance to-night.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The Waite sisters will continue to personate their leading characters in the burlesque of "Ixion" during the remaining evenings of the week. A new programme of variety acts, including much that is novel and pleasing, will be put on the stage to-night.

The Jubilee Singers.

On Tuesday evening next, 26th inst., the original Jubilee Singers, from Nashville, will give a concert at Library Hall, the profits from which are to go to Fisk University, Nashville. The troupe created a remarkable sensation in Europe by the novelty and the merit of their performances, and were the guests of Hon. W. E. Gladstone and other prominent men, who treated them with great consideration. Full particulars as to the concert may be learned from the advertisement elsewhere.

A LEGAL STRANGLING.

THE HANGING OF BEIGHLEY

At Greensburg, Pa.,

FOR THE MURDER OF JOSEPH KERR.

An Account of the Execution—Conflicting "Confessions"—Scenes, Incidents, Etc.

The execution of Samuel Beighley, at Greensburg, Westmoreland county, took place in the jail of said county yesterday. The crime for which Beighley suffered has already been mentioned in sufficient detail in these columns, and it only remains for us to present to our readers an account of the hanging and of things which immediately preceded and followed the "taking off" of the murderer.

HOW THE CONDEMNED PASSED HIS LAST NIGHT.

The murderer's last night on earth was not a peaceful one by any means. He was carefully guarded in his cell by Deputy Sheriffs West. Guffey and Joseph Cowan. One of those gentlemen informed the reporter of this journal that, although Beighley retired to bed at an early hour, he was very restless during the greater part of the night, sleeping very little up to three o'clock yesterday morning; that he would frequently spring from his bed and seize his writing materials, for the purpose, as he stated, of writing something further in the way of a confession; and that when he would take up his pen his hand would instantly become nerveless, and he could do nothing more than trace illegible, meaningless characters upon the paper. After the hour of three he rested somewhat better, until seven, when he arose and partook heartily of the breakfast which was sent to his cell. During and after breakfast he conversed freely with his guard, talking mostly about a "spell" which he had perpetrated on his counsel, by telling them that he had concealed a large amount of money in the ground at a certain place which he designated, and causing them to travel many miles with picks and shovels, and to dig away a large mound of earth, only to find that he had been lying to them.

PREPARATIONS.

Sheriff Guffey and his assistants were busily engaged during the entire forenoon in perfecting the arrangements for the awful event which must soon transpire. The scaffold, which had been erected during the night, was examined and re-examined many times, while the rope, with its fatal noose, was tested again and again. The Sheriff and two of his deputies, in order to test the strength of the rope, suspended the united weight of their bodies at the end of it. The black cap was produced and drawn over the head and face of the accountant in order to make sure of its answering the purpose for which it was intended. A small strip of carpet was tacked upon the trap upon which the condemned man was to stand, and from which he was soon to be launched into eternity. After these preparations and tests, another, perhaps the most important of all the trials took place. This was the springing of the trap, the apparatus for which was constructed after the manner of the one last used in the jail of this county, at the execution of the negro, Louis Lane. While this was going on the spiritual advisers of Beighley, Revs. Love and Swander, of the German Reformed, and Moorhead, of the Presbyterian church, were in the cell, one of these gentleman, it is said, stated that the sounds produced by the fall of the trap could be distinctly heard in the cell, but that Beighley, although apparently attracted by the noise, showed no emotion whatever.

The space in the jail around the place occupied by the scaffold was very small, there not being over ten feet square of standing room from which a view of the scaffold could be obtained. In fact it was only through the kindness and obliging disposition of the Sheriff, in swearing them in as his deputies, that the dozen or so of representatives of the press who were present, obtained places near enough to the scaffold to witness the execution.

AN ORDER TO RETIRE.

Up to half-past twelve o'clock the jail had been filled with a large crowd of curious people, who were admitted through the Sheriff's courtesy to see what was to be seen. At the hour named the Sheriff announced that all must retire, an order which was speedily and reluctantly obeyed. The jail having been cleared of those idle spectators, the clergy in attendance upon the condemned man visited his cell and administered to him the sacrament, according to the rites of the German Reformed Church, and he was

RECEIVED INTO THE CHURCH

as a member. Rev. Swander, of Latrobe, who was present by request of Beighley, stated to the COMMERCIAL reporter that the unfortunate man was closely questioned concerning his feelings and fitness for the solemn ceremony. Beighley would answer their questions with readiness, and his manner indicated that he was a truly penitent and contrite man. He was told that if he had any other confession to make than the one written for him by Rev. Love, and which was to be read on the scaffold, now was the time to make it. He replied that he had no further confession to make.

REV. SWANDER INTERVIEWED.

Just here we see fit to digress in a brief paragraph, in order to bring in an interview which the COMMERCIAL representative had with Rev. Swander, immediately after that gentleman had assisted in administering the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to Beighley. Mr. Swander said that his last conversation with the man had not altogether satisfied him that he was prepared to die. He had been badly educated — had all his life been going so rapidly away in another direction to think much about it. All persons educated as Christians hoped to reach—that it was impossible, in the brief time which they were permitted to labor with him to take all these things in his wickedness and turn him into the Christian pathway. He compared the career of Beighley to that of a runaway horse on the verge of a precipice. The momentum was so great that it was difficult in either case to check it. The reverend gentleman referred to the fact that the receiving of Beighley into the church had occasioned much talk in the community, and opinions adverse to the propriety of such a step had been freely expressed. He said that while the apparent moral obliquity of the man was greatly to be regretted, the public feeling against his spiritual advisers for doing that which they hoped would be right, and which they fervently prayed would redound to the eternal welfare of an unfortunate human creature, was a matter of regret. His wife (Mr. S.) would be glad if the case were different. The repentance of the murderer of his crime was not all that his religious friend had desired. They had labored earnestly to bring him to a true knowledge of his condition, but he felt constrained to admit that they had in a measure failed. He thought, however, that if the materials and time which were not always Christian institutions, could give a miserable criminal

THE BENEFIT OF A DOUBT,

it was certainly not very wrong for Christians to do the same. He thought it a safe rule to lean toward the side of mercy, even though an error might be committed. Mr. Sawder thought it quite probable that the man was insane, and gave as an instance, that on the night previous he had spent an hour with him in his cell. In connection with this Mr. Swander at times would utter the greatest earnestness and regard for his spiritual welfare, and would suddenly break off into a foolish and rambling conversation, of some unreality in which he would describe himself as the author of a great joke or "sell" upon somebody, and particularly did he seem to relish the "sell" which he perpetrated upon his counsel, in regard to the supposed treasure box. He said they had "sold" him, and he thought it was right that he should get even with them. In connection with Mr. Swander's remarks did not indicate that the reverend gentleman took stock extensively in Samuel Beighley's chances in the other world.

THE LAST WORD ON THE SCAFFOLD.

The clergymen remained in Beighley's cell from about half-past twelve to nearly one P. M., when they came forth, and the Sheriff's officers entered to bring him to the place of execution. A few minutes prior to this, however, the prisoner's counsel visited his cell and had him good-by.

THE PROCESSION TO THE SCAFFOLD

was formed near the cell. The clergy led the way, followed by the prisoner, supported by Deputy Sheriffs Cowan and Guffey. Two or three of the special deputies brought up the rear. The appearance of the prisoner was that of one utterly bereft of reason, and heedless as to what might be done to him. He was aligned, spiritless, and was aptly likened by a spectator to a mass of dough in the hands of the kneader. Having ascended the steps leading to the scaffold, Beighley was placed in a chair, where he sat with his head down, evidently giving no heed to the terrible surroundings. The Sheriff stood near the rope which dangled from the cross-beam, the two Deputies in the rear of the prisoner, and the clergymen at one side

A CONFESSION.

Rev. Love drew from his pocket a roll of manuscript, and said: "At the request of Samuel Beighley, I will now read a portion of his confession, commencing at the point where he went to live with the murdered man, and embracing everything relating to the murder." Mr. Love then proceeded to read. The confession concludes with the acknowledgment by the murderer of the justice of his punishment, and asking the forgiveness of those he had wronged.

AN IMPRESSIVE PRAYER

was then offered by the Rev. Moorhead, which was concluded at one o'clock, P. M. The crowd around the scaffold, with the exception of the reporters and the jury, were then ordered to retire from the ground which they did very slowly. The ministers then took leave of the prisoner, taking him by the hand in a very affectionate manner, and retired from the scaffold. Sheriff Guffey asked the prisoner if he had anything to say, and he answered "Nothing." The Sheriff then took him by the hand and bade him farewell. Here, for the first time, Beighley exhibited emotion, shedding a few tears.

THE NOOSE WAS ADJUSTED,

the black cap drawn over the head of the doomed man, and at eight minutes past one the trap was sprung, and Samuel Beighley had paid the penalty of his great crime. His neck was broken by the fall, and death was almost instantaneous.

BEIGHLEY'S LAST CONFESSION.

Mr. Hazlett, one of the attorneys who defended Beighley on his trial, placed in the hands of the reporters a copy of what he termed the last confession of his client. M. H. claims that the confessions in this paper were made at various times since his conviction, the main parts as late as the day before his execution. We make such extracts as we think will be interesting to our readers. Beighley says:

I was born in Westmoreland county in 1853 or 1854; my father's name is Conrad Beighley. In August, 1873, I was living at Plum Creek Coal Works, and I worked there until about three weeks before I went to Kerr's. I went to John Kerr's and staid for about two weeks; I had gone to Johnstown in 1872; while in Ohio in the spring of 1872, I took money from a couple of men who had about twelve miles from Steubenville; I got it in the house in a drawer; I got about $270; I had been working for one of them; one was by the name of Kerr and the other by the name of Jennings; in the fall of 1871, I, with three others, robbed a house in Jefferson township, near Steubenville, Ohio; the persons with us were Jack Mosley, Rhoden and Frederick Beatty; I only got $15, as near as I can recollect; I fell in with Beatty and Steele below Brownsville, while at work in a limestone quarry; from there I went to Steubenville, where I worked till they ran me off; when coming back from Steubenville to Rochester, I was arrested in the station at Rochester while waiting to take the cars for Chicago; this was for some things done at Vanport, before going to Steubenville.

This winter three years ago I was in Ohio; I and the three persons before mentioned burnt a barn; this was while we were going from Steubenville to Cleveland by the turnpike; we burnt about midnight; the same night we got over $1,000 in money out of a house; we got into the house by climbing up the portico and getting in at a window that was broken; the money was divided equally among the four; after we got to Cleveland and I did no work there, but we ran over the country; I then came back to Steubenville and worked at blacksmithing for Roe Swords; I then worked in a livery stable for Morgan Sharp about two months; from there I came to Pittsburgh and got work with William Fink, at draying in ice wagon; this was in June; I worked a while on Penn street, and also drove street cars in Allegheny City, from Troy Hill and Manchester; I staid there about three weeks, and went by the name of Wilson. From this I went to Braddock's Field to work on the bridge which was being built over the river at Port Perry; I only worked there for three or four days, and was arrested and taken to the Pittsburgh jail, standing in a watch from a man who was boarding where I staid; I was put by myself there; they could not prove nothing against me, and I was let out of jail after being there for about two weeks; I was followed by my friends to jail, and sent word; worked some while there and I got my money back; I then went to boarding at Plum Creek, and worked at the coal works and stayed there till I went to Kerr's; I had took money from John Montgomery, who lived over in Saltsburg, a couple of years before the time I went to Kerr's; I got $40, and he found it out; I also took a horse from William Irvin, who lives in the northern part of this county; I took the horse to Pittsburgh and got $50 for it; the horse was not a very good one; while at Staymate's I was told they were looking after me for stealing the horse, and I then went to for some time and then came back; I went to Kerr's in the fall of 1873 I was there about two weeks; while I was working at Kerr's, one day while making cider, Mrs. Kerr (wife of Joseph Kerr) said to me she would go to old man Bell to was out of the road, and she wished she was a little younger, she would get another man, as he (Kerr) was too old; and that he (Kerr) was of no use; she said he was old and not worth nothing, and that he was quarreling with her. While I was there he was always quarreling with her, and was always running around, and she did not like it; she told me she would give me one hundred dollars if I would kill him; she asked me about a week before he was killed to go to her father's in the fall; she told me to me; I agreed to do it for her; she said the sooner this was done the better; there was wait till he came and then kill him; she never paid me any money that she promised to; I had no money to buy pistol before; I never else knew it on the evening the killing was done I was at David Stout's, and I left there about 8 o'clock; I had been at Stout's for several days; that week I had been drinking and was under the influence of liquor; I got some; I had also some whisky at Murraysville and had hid it in the fence corner, between Stout's and Kerr's shop, about one hundred and fifty yards from the shop; I got the whisky and then went to Kerr's shop; there was no light in the shop when I got there, and did not have to go into Kerr's house to get to the shop; when I got to the shop the door was open; I went in the shop and was in it about an hour before he came; I went in at the door; do not remember if there was in the door or not; I brought a light with him, and went up the ladder to the loft of the shop; he saw me when he came in; I stole boards at Steubenville, and got to bed with him; the hammer and knife were on the bench; the knife was four and a half inches long; I brought the knife with me from Ohio and gave them to others of our party, instead of to Jennings, whose house it was not; took three others in Ohio, or I had not; I took them part of the time; I had the "sell" with her perpetrated upon his counsel, in regard to the supposed treasure box. He said they had "sold" him, and he thought it was right that he should get even with them; he was sacrificed; Mr. Swander's remarks did not indicate that the reverend gentleman took stock extensively in Samuel Beighley's chances in the other world.

THE FATIGUE OF IRON.

It is a well known fact that when iron is kept under a constant strain, it will, in the course of time become weaker, and if not relieved, will break under the load. The cause of this weakening of iron is a matter of great interest to all mechanics.

A bar of wrought iron is not a continuous body; it may be physically divided; yet there is an end to its divisibility. The ultimate particles are called atoms. The atoms, by virtue of their initial forces, unite and form molecules. Molecules unite with each other and assume a certain physical structure, in which the molecules are not impact, but merely ranged alongside of each other, with sufficient room for their individual undulations.

The molecules exert two distinct forces. The first is the force of attraction, which is inherent in them, and can neither be increased nor diminished. The second is the force due to heat, which may be increased, diminished, or transferred from one place to another. By virtue of these two forces, the molecules are held at a certain distance from each other. The undulating lying between contiguous molecules are called pores. When the molecules are at such a nearness to each other as to allow the forces of attraction to act across, the interstice is called a physical pore; but when the molecules are separated to a degree beyond the sphere of their attracting and repelling forces, then the cavities are called sensible pores.

The force of attraction tends to draw the molecules together and holds them in a state of rest, while the force due to heat tends to separate them and push them out into a state of activity. The result of these two forces is known as the molecular resistant force.

The tensile strength of iron is the constant equal of the molecular resultant force of the section under strain, because it will require no greater force to pull the molecules apart than that exerted in holding them together. Consequently, any change in the resultant force will produce a corresponding change in the tensile strength of the iron.

Molecules are capable of two distinct movements. The first is an undulatory movement on the path of their co-peripheries. A movement on these peripherial paths may be traversed without increasing their distance from each other; consequently their resultant forces is not changed nor their strength diminished. The second movement is on a straight path, and when the molecules are made to traverse this path, being caused by heat or otherwise, the resultant force is changed, and the strength of the mass is either increased or diminished.

The phenomenon of elasticity is an outward expression of the internal undulatory movement of the molecules traversing the peripheral paths, while oscillating themselves to the momentum of the load. When a bar of iron is subject to a lateral strain, the molecules, in adjusting themselves to that condition, traverse the peripheral paths, and when the load is removed their resultant force enables them to resume their co-relative normal condition, and their elastic peripheral undulations produce the phenomenon of vibrations. Therefore a moderate vibration of iron does not fatigue it, as no strength is lost in traversing the peripheral path. But concussion causes the molecules to traverse the straight path, and often forcing them beyond the sphere of their attracting power, thus producing *sensible pores*, reducing the resultant force, and diminishing the tensile strength. Each sensible pore produced fatigues the iron, and, if allowed to accumulate, the metal grows weaker until finally rupture ensues.

Now, it is of great importance that the conditions producing fatigue in iron should be accurately determined, that our engineers may be enabled to prevent the breaking of railway car axles and avoid the loss of life incident thereto. All this can be readily done in the Mechanics' High School, as specific causes could be created by which one bar of iron could be placed under continuous vibration, in which the vibrations and temperature of the bar would be recorded until rupture ensued. Another machine could be constructed in which a bar could be made to revolve under concussion, and the revolutions, concussions and temperature automatically recorded until rupture ensued. Indeed there are so many different ways by which the Mechanics' High School may be of service, that I wonder it has not long ago been established on a firm foundation.

J. R.

Dry Goods Store Robbed.

On Monday night the mourning goods store of D. Cooper & Co., Market street, was entered by thieves, who bored through a panel in the back door. Goods to the value of about $1,000 were carried off. They consisted of plain black silks, more particularly. The store was lighted with gas at the time, and full view could be had from the street, but no discovery was made by either the city police or the private watchman on the street till the store was opened in the morning.

We may state that we had information of this robbery on Tuesday, but were especially requested to withhold any mention of it, because the officers were on the track and hoped to capture the thieves.

City Hall Auditing.

Messrs. Miller and Bailey, of the City Hall Auditing Committee, met again yesterday, to hear further from taxpayers Mellon and King. Judge Mellon wanted the Controller and the City Treasurer summoned, but as those officials were in Harrisburg, their presence could not be secured. After some discussion, the auditors concluded to give the taxpayers another week, and the meeting adjourned till Wednesday morning next.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

Adjourned Meeting Yesterday—Election of Officers—Executive Committee Enlarged—Report of the Superintendent—Encouraging Prospects—Additional Memberships—Thanks to Dr. A. G. Walters.

An adjourned meeting of the Allegheny county Humane Society was held yesterday afternoon, at their rooms, No. 298 Penn avenue, President C. A. Colton in the chair.

The attendance was large, and much interest was manifested in the proceedings. On the front of the building was placed a large and handsomely painted sign, the gift of Dr. A. G. Walters, a gentleman who takes a great interest in the society. It contains a representation of the seal of the society, a brutal driver with whip raised over his horse, which has fallen under its heavy load. An angel of mercy has just appeared, and stops the cruel treatment of the beast.

The first business of the society was action upon the amendments to the constitution and by laws proposed at the last meeting. Both amendments were carried, with slight changes.

On motion of Mr. Luckey, the society decided to hold special meetings on the first Wednesday of each month.

On motion, a committee was appointed to nominate candidates to fill the vacancies upon the Executive Committee. The nominees of the committee were duly elected, and as a matter of public interest, we give below a full list of officers as then and subsequently chosen:

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President—Charles A. Colton.
Secretary—John S. Ritenour.
Treasurer—Frederick Rinehart.
Superintendent—Zadock Street.
Agent—Michael Dean.
Collector and Canvasser—Miss Regina Barry.

Executive Committee—Chairman, Geo. J. Luckey; Mrs. Samuel McKee, Mrs. Wilson McCandless, Mrs. T. A. Rowley, Miss Augusta L. Haller, Mrs. J. W. Foster, Mrs. Orlando Metcalf, Mrs. Judge Mellon, Mrs. Wm. A. Herron, Mrs. Magothin, Mrs. Ernest Schwartz, Messrs. G. A. Colton, A. G. Walters, Joel Kerr, Robert Jennings, S. C. Hough, William Wade, Frank P. Case, John S. Ritenour and H. H. Byram.

Mr. Zadock Street, Superintendent, made a report, from which we take the following:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Since the meeting two weeks ago, we have gone from place to place daily, where heavy hauling was done, and do not see or hear of much abuse to the animals thus at work; no sore shoulders or sore mouths occasioned by sharp twisted bridle bits as formerly, they having been removed; but tight reigning continues, greatly to the injury of the animal in performing his work.

Live stock on cars continue to arrive that have been confined in cars double the time allowed by the law of Congress on that subject, and a number of cases reported. We have received a letter from the President of the Ladies' Union Aid Society, informing us that they intend prosecuting the suit now pending in the United States Court, in Philadelphia, against the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company for violation of the law. We are gratified to report that those controlling the Union Stock Yards are willing to carry out our requests, and the management of the yards there, and are now working in harmony with us.

We were informed that two horses had been abandoned by their owners on the hill, and were removed by the officers of the Board of Health, and we have been for more than a week endeavoring to find the owners, and to prevail upon him or them, but thus far without success.

Information was received, indirectly, that the mail contractors on the Steubenville pike were using poor and infirm horses not in a condition to perform the labor required of them. After a thorough investigation we caused the mail carrier to be arrested, and held to bail in three hundred dollars to appear before Alderman Anderson by one P. M. on Wednesday, the 20th. In the meantime we secured the services of several of a number of witnesses subpœnaed, who appeared at the time (other persons who knew the facts of cruelty avoided appearance), but at the time for trial the defendant did not appear. We demanded a hearing, and by the most positive evidence of sundry witnesses, we proved beyond doubt or cavil that the horses had been driven and cruelly treated by compelling them to perform service greater than they were in a condition to perform, and that two of the horses had died while on the road. Then asked the magistrate to issue a fine of ten dollars each for abusing a brown and bay horse, also twenty dollars each for a dark iron-gray horse and a bright bay horse that had died in service, with the costs, and if not paid at once, to forfeit the bail bond for the use of the Society. (Since this report was written it is understood that the bail was declared forfeited.)

In this case, as in all others, we know no difference in the high or low standing of the parties, or of the wealth of those who transgress the law. The importance of having a well organized and thorough working society for the prevention of cruelty to animals in this county is more and more apparent, and to carry out effectually the humane object will require more or less expense. It is important that the beneficiership should be largely increased, and we suggest that renewed efforts be adopted to inform the public of the importance and good results of our labors, and request our earnest support to call on citizens of the two cities generally and ask them for their support. We really should have one thousand members. Now is the time, and if rightly sustained, our Society will be second to none in the Union. Letters from Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, and other places and cities, are all of one tenor, that we persevere in the good work.

Respectfully submitted.

ZADOCK STREET, Sup't.

Dr. A. G. Walters made a short address in presenting the sign, which was received with signal ready noticed. We regret that we have not room to publish his remarks in full. They will, however, appear in the forthcoming annual report, to be published in pamphlet form. He closed as follows: This sign will make ourselves known, felt, heard and respected, and will thus gather friends to our cause and help to extend the sphere of our usefulness. And although our society is yet in its infancy, and has been organized at a time of unusual depression in business, when our citizens are overtaxed with cares; yet if we are willing to work we need not despair of gathering members and aid. Our mission is no less noble and benevolent than any other which the hearts of good men and women have devised. With these remarks, Mr. President, allow me to present this sign, with the request that it be placed in your keeping, as a slight token of the interest, sympathy and love which I feel for the cause.

Prof. Luckey, after a few remarks complimentary to Dr. Walters, moved a vote of thanks, which were unanimously tendered.

After some further business not of public interest the society adjourned.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION.

Immediately after the adjournment of the society, the Executive Committee met and organized by the election of George J. Luckey, Esq., as Chairman.

Miss Regina Barry, canvasser and collector, made a report of her work, which was very flattering to the society.

Mr. Luckey reported that Mr. Hough was compelled to go to Cincinnati on account of want of time to attend to the duties of the position. The resignation was, on motion accepted.

The positions of Secretary Treasurer, Superintendent and agent were then filled as noticed above in the list of officers.

The salary of the agent Mr. Michael Dean was fixed at $1,000. Mr. Doan is to take hold of his work on Febuary 1st.

Several bills were acted upon after which the committee adjourned to meet on Wednesday next.

Daily Weather Reports.

We are under obligations to General Albert J. Myer, Chief Signal Officer, through Sergeant George H. Rohe, Observer at Pittsburgh, for a bound volume of the "Daily Bulletin of Weather Reports, with the Synopses, Probabilities and Facts, for the month of September, 1872." The volume is quarto, and contains one hundred and eighty-five pages of printed matter. There are, in addition, three beautiful colored maps, or charts, for each day in the month, making ninety in all. The puolication has been made by order of the Secretary of War; and General Myer, under date of April 15, 1873, in a communication which he addresses as a preface to the work, remarks: "The publication has for its object to exhibit the data upon which this office has been compelled to act in regard to the display of signals ordered, and to submit for general consideration the information gathered upon its files. As a contribution of data, at least to meteoric science, and a demonstration that it needs only that governments should will and act through proper organization to make meteoric knowledge of daily and practical use to the people, the publications must have value."

Fire in a Grocery.

About eleven o'clock last night, fire was discovered in the grocery store of John Cronin, corner of Penn avenue and Twenty-first street. An alarm was given and promptly responded to by the fire department. The flames were put out without great loss, either to the building or the stock of goods. Mr. Cronin is insured to the amount of $2,000. The building is owned by Thomas Rowswell, Esq., and is, also, insured.

New Counterfeit Treasury Notes.

Counterfeit twenty dollar United States Treasury notes, dated March 10, 1862, have made their appearance, one firm in Chicago having met with two spurious notes of the above denomination within the past ten days. Storekeepers should be on their guard, and refuse all of these bills, as they are good imitations of the genuine.

The Poultry Exhibition.

The fourth annual exhibition of the Poultry Society of Western Pennsylvania, which closed yesterday, was an entire success, and the officers and managers deserve credit for their work. This was the most successful exhibition yet held.

A SAD DISPENSATION.

Dr. Alcorn and Wife Die on the Same Day.

On Tuesday afternoon, at three o'clock, Dr. James P. Alcorn, a well known physician of Allegheny, died at his residence, No. 44 Chestnut street, and the same night, at half-past eleven o'clock, his wife, Mrs. Martha H. Alcorn, expired at the same place. The doctor had been ill for several weeks, but not confined to bed until Saturday last, when he was seized with a violent attack of pleura-pneumonia. On Friday morning last his wife was taken ill, with inflammation of the bowels, and her disease proved rapidly fatal. The doctor began the practice of medicine in Butler, Pennsylvania, and afterward removed to Ravenna, Ohio, where he resided for several years, and then removed to Allegheny City. He was a prominent member of Providence Presbyterian Church, Allegheny, and widely known and highly respected. The remains of the husband and wife will to-day be taken to Louisville, Indiana county, for interment. By this sad death four children—one an infant—are left orphans. The doctor was fifty-three years of age, while his wife was in her forty-second year.

Death of Mr. John S. Hall.

Mr. John S. Hall, for many years a member of the Globe Plow Works of Hall & Speer, one of the oldest manufacturing firms in the city, died yesterday at his residence, Greenwood street, Allegheny. This firm was dissolved some two years ago, since which time the deceased had not been in active business. He contracted a severe cold, on a hunting excursion some five weeks since, and had been gradually failing in health ever since. His death, however, was not anticipated so soon, and his numerous friends will be surprised as well as pained to hear of his demise. He was about forty-five years of age, and was widely known in connection with plow manufacturing, having invented many improvements upon the plow and other agricultural implements.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

Several city officials were in Harrisburg yesterday.

COMPLAINT is again made against the Forbes street contractor for blasting.

DR. A. G. WALTERS has donated a handsome and expensive sign to the Humane Society.

IT may regret to state that Mayor Blackmore was much worse yesterday, and that report has it that he is in a dangerous condition.

THE colored "Bermudian orator," Robert Smith, will lecture this evening in the Bellfield Presbyterian church, on "Bermuda, its People," etc.

P. H. MINOGUE, who was arrested on suspicion of having set fire to his store, in Dale East End, has given bail, and it says when the proper time comes he will be fully able to establish his innocence.

THE Rev. E. Reed, a Protestant Episcopal clergyman, has prepared a chart, in the form of a genealogical or historical tree, representing the growth of the universal Christian Church, from the time of its foundation. The tree has nineteen branches, each branch representing a century.

THE Road Committee of Pittsburgh Councils was organized yesterday by the election of Mr. E. Brown as chairman. An appropriation of $60,000 was asked for and the time of meeting was fixed at two P. M. on the third day of each month, after which the committee adjourned.

THE Humane Society, as will be seen by our report elsewhere, is now completely organized and efficient work may be expected. The society is rapidly gaining strength, and is entitled to praise and aid by the addition of members. Friends of the cause will please remember that the only authorized canvasser and collector is Miss Regina Barry.

J. P. COSGRAY, Esq., Sheriff of Greene county, arrived in this city Tuesday, having in his custody Jesse Stewart, a convict sentenced to the Western Penitentiary eleven years and a half, for wife murder. This makes the number received at the institution during the present month, fourteen, and the total number of prisoners 180.

MARK ADAMS, engineer, and Patrick Keegan, fireman of a train on the Cleveland road, were seriously injured on Tuesday evening by being thrown from the cab at Sewickley bank, Allegheny. Adams had his collar bone broken and Kreegan suffered internal injuries. Frank Leslie, who was riding on the engine, had his hand cut. A broken rail caused the accident.

MR. JOHN ROSS, ex-Secretary of the Water Commission, died at his residence near Shadeland Side, on Saturday last, after a lingering illness of consumption. The deceased had been in active business for a number of years, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His funeral will take place at two o'clock this afternoon.

A FUNERAL paper makes the charge, upon the authority of a sign, that Mayor Mr. O'Keefe, that the Mayor's proclamation for a new city election was offered to the taxpayers, if they would pay for it the sum of $1,500, which they refused to do. The offer, it is said, was made, not by the Mayor, but by a party claiming to represent him.

A REALISTIC enterprise. One of the members of the city press who witnessed the execution of the murderer Beighley, at Greensburg, yesterday, is reported to have asked the prisoner, some hours before he was turned off, if he would be kind enough to wriggle his little fingers while he was conscious, so that the reporters could form some conception of how long it takes a man to die by being hanged." His modest request was not, we believe, granted.

A Lady in Our Neighborhood

who had suffered for over three months the most extreme torture by a violent cough, has been entirely relieved by the use of Hall's Cough Syrup. For sale in every drug store.

To Let.

The warehouse No. 335 Liberty street, now occupied by D. Chestnut & Co., the building is one of the best in the city, and contains a suite of offices in the stone front building Nos. 176 and 178 Wood street, the best location in the city. Also, a second floor, extending, suitable for a lodge or society of any kind. Also, a dwelling house, containing nine rooms, adjoining the above, No. 180 Wood street. Eighteenth ward, suitable for a boarding house. Apply at John D. Thompson's, Brush and Notion House, 176 and 178 Wood street.

For Sale or Exchange

for good city property, nine acres of land at Glendale Station, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. Improvements and prospects, also a large variety of fruit trees. Inquire of John D Thompson, Brush and Notion House, 176 and 178 Wood street.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup, Sea Weed Tonic, and Mandrake Pills.

These deservedly celebrated and popular medicines have effected a revolution in the healing art, and push aside the old and fatal maxims